

VOLUME

240



PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

CHRONICLE *News*

Athol, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## 1936 LEGISLATURE MAY GROW INTO MORAL REFORM ACTIVITY

### If Church Groups Organize

by Arthur W. Woodman  
(Daily News Staff Writer)

STATE HOUSE, Boston, Dec. 18  
—The tempo of the times indicate the 1936 session of the legislature may be torn between moral issues, and the weighty discussion of a revision in state policies concerning unchecked expenditures.

Liquor, racing, petty gambling and probably Sunday sports may come out of what appears to be a definite move on the part of religious and reformer groups to return Massachusetts to the column of puritanical conduct.

Liquor, more than any one item is slated for bitter battle, as local option again looms throughout the commonwealth, with prohibition units moving unhampered toward their goal for restoration of the Baby Volstead act.

#### Athol Votes Wet

In 1932 with the frenzy for "tax producing legislation" facing bewildered voters, the town of Athol went wet—but today the expression throughout the state is that of universal disapproval of current conditions.

No doubt exists in the minds of early legislative visitors to the state capitol, but that the trend of the coming vote on local option will find many towns and several cities reverting to the dry column.

Horse and dog racing under the pari-mutual system of betting has already been under fire, and more can be expected in the coming convention of the legislature.

Figures submitted to the Governor by the state racing commission for the past season, while showing that the state received in taxes \$1,000,000 over and above the half million estimate, shows conclusively that for every attendant at Massachusetts race tracks, the loss was \$3.

Merchants and tradesmen have reported suffering a loss through the operation of Bay State race tracks and the movement inaugurated by the Puritan league is gaining headway each week, until the 1936 vote on dogs at present looks hopeless for the future of the greyhound leapers.

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Athol, Mass.

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### HAIGIS DELIVERS AN INDICTMENT

Regardless of party affiliation, most taxpayers will agree with Mr. Haigis' statement, made at Orange Tuesday night, that the current administration is "the most extravagant and inefficient in Massachusetts history."

That Governor Curley has deliberately set out to go his mentor, President Roosevelt, one better in making political capital out of human misery, and that he has notoriously neglected to disburse funds placed at his command by a too-suppliant legislature in accordance with need, but rather by rule of political support accorded or expected is a known fact.

Haigis' own record as state treasurer and lieutenant governor gives weight to his statement that straight thinking is the thing most needed in state government today. Here in his own neighborhood, the Greenfield candidate to represent the Republican party in the gubernatorial race will be accorded maximum support, of course.

But it is his policy of honesty in government, his proven desire to cooperate with those who pay the bills, his antithesis to everything that bears the name of Curley, rather than his party affiliation that will make him a favored candidate in nearly every section of the state.

It is a noteworthy fact that not only the best youth of Orange but civic, political and industrial leaders of the town constituted his audience Tuesday night. But the mass of Orange people, like the majority of honest folk in other places will deliver a tremendous ballot to the Greenfield newspaperman who, they know, will administer their affairs from the state house as he would from his desk in the bank of which he is president.

CHRONICLE  
No. Attleboro, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# Incoming Legislature Faces Important Issues

## Efforts To Boost State Income Tax And Repeal Teacher's Oath Bill Loom As Biggest Battles.

By GENE LORICK  
International News Service Staff  
Correspondent

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (INS)—Efforts to boost the State income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial Teachers' Oath Law loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming Legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the gilded dome.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place 200,000 new contributors to State tax totals, through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

The jobs of half the representatives and senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence. Governor James M. Curly announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the Legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems facing the Legislature—The "Second Annual Session of the 149th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts"—some of which may be written into the statutes, and others snowed under in the battle of ballots either in House or Senate:

Reduce State income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2,000 to \$1,400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2,500 to \$1,900.

Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the recent Supreme Court decision which stated

it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the Executive Council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Governor Curley.

Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Langone, Jr., filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the State from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3½ to 5 per cent on horses and from 3½ to 10 per cent on the whippets.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week now in effect in State institutions to County institutions.

Place the State Police Constabulary under civil service.

Raze the old State's Prison at Charlestown, either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for State welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and clarify statutes prohibiting illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor. Prevent employment by the State of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, sixty less than last year on this date, and 48 in the Senate, the deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., January 11th.

*Concluded*

### Seek Race Abolition

At the same time, the legislature will have measures before it seeking out and out abolition of the racing privileges granted by the electorate. Senator William F. McCarthy of Lowell has a petition before the Senate requesting the General court to nullify the vote of the people.

More than likely it will be the reference of the matter to the voters which will wipe out the racing in most counties except Suffolk. The Suffolk Downs management may compliment themselves on locating in the most liberal county in the state, thus protecting their investment to a degree.

Beano, Bingo and other chance games will be under heavy fire in the coming battle on the hill.

Churches, while sponsoring these games in a minority of cases, appear upset at the widespread growth of beano parties, and no legislator can well afford to spurn the wishes of the religious groups as evidenced by the shift of votes in the House of Representatives last session after William, Cardinal O'Connell attacked liberals for approving the state lottery plan.

Lastly, there may be some effort made to curb the Sunday sports program — although no great hope is held for much progress along these lines.

Summed up, the legislature is going to find itself much in the role of a reformer organization, confronted with the problem of restoring puritanical customs in the Bay State.

What will actually happen, depends upon the activity of church groups. Their unification within the next few weeks on major issues of moral welfare appear to be the only item now to be taken into account.



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CHRONICLE  
No. Attleboro, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

ed Laval's prestige.

## REARDON SWORN IN AS COMMISSIONER

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (INS) — The Teachers' Oath Law must be upheld and the standing of schools of the state maintained, James G. Reardon, 35, said today as he took the oath of office as Commissioner of Education.

The ex-Medway farmer, Boston College student, the youngest educator ever to hold the state commissionship and former superintendent of schools in Adams, received the oath of office surrounded by 100 relatives and friends from Governor James M. Curley, who appointed him after the quick rejection by the Executive Council of Dr. Payson Smith.

Dr. Smith was not present.

PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

JOURNAL  
Augusta, Maine

DEC 19 1935

## Smith Rejected Education Head By Mass Council

Former Maine Man Named  
By Governor Curley But  
His Nomination is Lost  
by 5 to 4 Vote

### Reardon Confirmed

Boston, Dec. 18.—(P)—In five minutes today, Dr. Payson Smith, was ousted as state commissioner of education after almost two decades of service, and a dark horse among those mentioned to succeed him was appointed and confirmed.

After months of continuous agitation from teachers to reappoint Dr. Smith, who is 63, Governor James M. Curley submitted his name to the executive council, which rejected the nomination, 5 to 4.

Smith served as state superintendent of schools in Maine before coming to Massachusetts.

The governor immediately offered the name of James G. Reardon, 36-year-old superintendent of schools in Adams, and the council just as quickly confirmed him as commissioner. The vote was 6 to 3, strictly on party lines.

Among numerous candidates mentioned as possibly successors to Dr. Smith, Reardon has received no special notice or support until last night, when a majority of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation endorsed him. A minority favored Dr. Smith's retention.

Reardon styled himself a "100 per cent supporter" of the controversial state teachers' oath act, while Dr. Smith originally opposed it. How much weight was attached by the councillors to these attitudes of the respective candidates, however, was not immediately apparent.

Reardon's term of office is five years and his salary \$9,000.

While rejecting Dr. Smith's reappointment, the council confirmed reappointment of two other state officials appointed before Governor Curley was elected.

One was Henry F. Long, state commissioner of taxation and corporations, in public service for many years. He was reappointed for a term of three years, at a salary of \$7,500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31-year-old commissioner of public safety, appointed by Governor Curley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely. He will serve five years at \$6,000 annually.

Governor Curley, explaining the council's vote on the Smith reappointment, said:

"I conferred with the Democratic members of the council concerning the Smith appointment before the council session, and with the exception of the lieutenant governor,

they were all opposed to Mr. Smith."

Reardon, a Boston College graduate in 1923 and an American Legionnaire, studied also at Harvard and Boston Universities.

He has been superintendent at Adams for a year, going there after serving in the same capacity at East Bridgewater for eight years. He also had taught at East Bridgewater

High school, and was principal for a year.

The council today deferred again action on the governor's appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.

DEC 19 1935

## Reardan Assumes Office; Sworn In By Gov. Curley

Promises to Uphold High Standards of Education Which Have Made State Conspicuous—Says as Long as Teachers' Oath Law Remains on Books it Should be Observed—Governor Says He is Confident Appointee Will Discharge Trust—Kiley Also Sworn in—Plunkett Quoted as Among Those Opposed to Replacement of Dr. Payson Smith—Councillor Schuster and Rep. Bowker Incensed—Educators Express Regret That Smith is Through.

(Special to the Transcript)

Boston, Dec. 19.—Promising to uphold the high standards of education which have made Massachusetts conspicuous, James G. Reardan of Adams today took oath of office from Gov. Curley in the executive chambers and became Commissioner of Education.

He said, "my interests from now on will be to uphold the high standards which have made Massachusetts conspicuous in the field of education. I shall be ready to do everything in my power to further adult education, to maintain and if possible improve the standing of state schools and do everything possible to secure employment for the young men and women citizens of Massachusetts who are qualified for teaching positions. As to any specific program I prefer to make no announcement until I have had opportunity to become more familiar with the problems now under consideration in the state department of education.

"Regarding the oath—at the present, the law of the state is that teachers should take this oath. The general court of Massachusetts has decided that at present such an oath is necessary. As long as the law made by the general court exists there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law-abiding citizen. Those citizens who feel that the oath is not necessary can have recourse to the constitutional method of changing the law. As to the observance of the law itself I can see no objection to any educator taking an oath which obligates him only to the performance of what is a clear duty—an oath similar in most respects to that taken by lawyers and many public officials of the state."

Gov. Curley said, "I want to say that I wish you every success in the office to which you have been appointed. I have appreciated that the education and training of your pred-

ecessor was no greater than yours. If we all were to drop dead tomorrow other men and women would take over our places who are even better qualified than we could be. This applies to the education department as well as other places.

"You have a real responsibility and I am confident you will discharge it. This is the truest statement ever made. We sometimes kid ourselves that we are indispensable. I repeat there is no one who is indispensable."

Mr. Reardan took the oath in the presence of Mrs. Reardan, other members of his family, Principal Philip S. Sayles of the Adams high school, William J. McConnell, a member of the Adams high school faculty, and Mrs. McConnell, and other friends.

### Kiley Also Sworn In

Gov. Curley also administered the oath of office to Attorney Daniel E. Kiley as clerk of the Adams district court. Among those present to see Mr. Kiley sworn in were his father and cousin, Miss Katharine Quirk of North Adams.

On the vote for Dr. Payson Smith's renomination as commissioner of education yesterday, Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley, joined the Republican members of the executive council in voting to retain the veteran commissioner who has been in office 20 years. However, when Curley submitted Reardan's name after Smith's had been rejected, Hurley voted for his confirmation.

### Plunkett In Opposition

The Boston Herald today states that among those who protested the removal of Commissioner Smith was Senator Theodore R. Plunkett of Adams, adding that Plunkett's protest was significant because he is a resident of the town where Reardan is superintendent of schools.

Gov. Curley has stated that he is undecided about reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney as director of the division of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman as com-

missioner of correction and Major George J. Cronin as state purchasing agent.

The maneuver of the Governor's Council by which Mr. Reardan was made Commissioner of Education after Dr. Payson Smith had failed of confirmation was vigorously assailed last night by Councilor Winfield A. Schuster and Representative Philip G. Bowker as a "prearranged plan of the Governor to save his face."

Both Bowker and Schuster called the action of the Governor in first submitting the name of Smith a "mere gesture." Smith, with Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley voting in his favor, was rejected, five to four. Reardan's name was then submitted and, with Lieut. Gov. Hurley voting for him, he was confirmed, six to three.

While the ousting of Smith, who held the important post for 19 years, was attacked, praise greeted the reappointment of Commissioner of Public Safety Paul G. Kirk and Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation Henry F. Long, whose terms expire Dec. 1.

### Democrats in Caucus

Persons close to the Governor said he intended to renominate Dr. Smith right along and did so notwithstanding information given to him at a caucus of the Democratic Councilors that they would reject the nomination. It is understood the Governor made little effort to have Dr. Smith confirmed.

The Democrats were in caucus for an hour and a half before going into regular session to vote down Smith. In the brief interval while they were entering the Council chamber, Gov. Curley announced to the press that he would nominate Dr. Smith.

"If, however," said the Governor, "the Council should not take favorable action on Dr. Smith, I shall submit the name of James G. Reardan."

After voting down the Smith appointment the Council then voted to suspend the rules. With Lieut. Gov. Hurley out of the room the vote was passed, 5 to 3. Ordinarily a nomination is put over for a week. Suspension of the rules made it possible for the Council to act at once on the Reardan appointment.

"I conferred with the Democratic members of the Council concerning the Smith appointment before the Council session," said Gov. Curley, "and, with the exception of the Lieutenant Governor, they were all opposed to him."

### Schuster's Views

Councilor Schuster's statement: "As I see it, the whole thing was cut and dried. The vote of the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers favoring Reardan seems to have been engineered by the Governor. The sending of Smith's name was nothing more than a gesture of the Governor to save his face. Analysis shows that the submission of the name meant nothing."

"The despicable methods of Gov. Curley are now only too apparent," said Bowker. "His back-door tactics in the case of Dr. Smith should not be overlooked. First, through his henchmen he maneuvered a vote through the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers to support Reardan for the position.



## Education Head and Family

"This morning he held a caucus of the Democratic members of the council behind closed doors. The council then met and the governor submitted Dr. Smith's name for re-appointment. A vote of 5 to 4 rejected Smith. The governor, according to a pre-arranged plan, then put in Reardan's name and he was confirmed, 6 to 3.

"What a bluff on the part of the Governor! Does he think for one minute the public cannot see through this? By trying to save his own face and put his councilors on the spot the Governor has stooped to tactics of the lowest sort and has only shown himself up."

### Milked Cows as Boy

In Medway people who have known the Reardans for many years were overjoyed last night to hear that James Gerard Reardan, better known as "Roddy," had been made commissioner of education.

They recalled his school days when he helped his father, William H. Reardan, milk the cows before and after school, a custom he followed even while commuting to Boston every day to attend Boston College, where he graduated in the class of 1923.

His father, although 80, works every day at his bench in a local mill, and says he is never going to retire. He got the news of his son's appointment yesterday and still did not quit his work.

### Liked School

His mother, Mrs. Mary Agnes (McGinnis) Reardan was also overjoyed when she heard the news. The new commissioner is the youngest of four brothers. He has no sisters. He will be 36 July 22. His father and mother were born in Medway and are the oldest married couple in town. They celebrate their golden wedding next year.

"Never," said his mother, "did he ever have any trouble in school. School was his delight."

One of his brothers, John H. Reardan, is manager of the local woolen mill. Another brother, William A. Reardan, is an inspector in the State Motor Vehicles Department. A third brother is a railroad representative in Boston.

### Reaction at Smith College

Northampton, Dec. 19.—The following was the reaction of educators at Smith college to the appointment of James G. Reardan, superintendent of schools at Adams, to displace Dr. Payson Smith as state commissioner of education:

President William A. Neilson: "The failure to reappoint Dr. Payson Smith is, in my opinion, a calamity for the interests of education in Massachusetts. His service has not only been long and faithful but highly intelligent. It is extremely unfortunate that for reasons which one can only suppose to be political, the commonwealth should be deprived of services of so great value as those of Dr. Smith."



The above photo of James G. Reardan of Adams, who today succeeded Dr. Payson Smith as state commissioner of education, Mrs. Reardan and their children was posed especially for the Transcript in Gus Smith's studio in Adams yesterday afternoon. Standing with Mrs. Reardan is Susan, three years of age. Seated are Cynthia, seven, and James G., Jr., five. Commissioner Reardan is holding Rosemary, one year of age. Mrs. Reardan, who is a daughter of Judge Hubert C. Thorndike of Brockton, is also a niece of Judge R. O. Harris, former United States district attorney for Massachusetts, a grandniece of Judge R. W. Harris, former congressman, and a direct descendant of Harrison Gray Otis, Sally Foster and Captain Miles Standish of the Plymouth colony.

Prof. S. Ralph Harlow of department of religion and biblical literature: "No political act in my years of experience as a teacher has so undermined respect for the state as has the teachers' oath bill. The teachers of this state have been almost a unit in indorsing Payson Smith as commissioner of education, partly because he was courageous enough to oppose the present administration's attacks on the teachers."

*Concluded*

TRANSCRIPT

North Adams, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

cause he was black. — JOHN A. ANDREW.

A Shadow, and An Opportunity

The most surprising thing about the change that was made yesterday in the direction of the state's educational system was the astonishing performance by which it was accomplished. How any man as admittedly clever as Governor Curley could have assumed that the public would swallow at its face value the utterly superfluous and preposterous pantomime that he staged for its benefit is beyond our comprehension.

Can anybody, we wonder, really believe that the unanimous desertion of Governor Curley's leadership by the Democratic majority in his council yesterday, extending even to his own recently hand-picked members whose appointment gave him personal control of that body, was entirely spontaneous and took the governor completely by surprise? Can anybody, we wonder, really believe that the governor and his council majority discussed nothing but the weather in their ninety-minute conference preceding the performance?

It was, of course, supposed to cover up the fact that Mr. Curley was the first Massachusetts governor to carry purely partisan politics into the Massachusetts educational system. Dr. Smith, the man who was displaced in this elaborate bit of play-acting, had filled the office for nineteen years, under a long line of governors, both Republican and Democratic, all of whom, in consistently re-appointing him, had manifestly accepted without question the tradition that this particular post should be exempted from the customary operation of the political system.

It may turn out that, regardless of the wholly farcical and inexcusable method of its execution, the substitution of a young and energetic man for one who has aged in the public service, will prove to be a good thing. Mr. Reardan, in the short time that he has been our

neighbor, has made a pleasant impression on everyone he has come in contact with, bearing out the reputation he had already established elsewhere. From a purely local standpoint, his appointment may well carry an element of distinct and legitimate advantage, in that his sojourn among us, brief as it has been, has perhaps given him an insight into, and an appreciation of, Western Massachusetts conditions and values which have not hitherto been conspicuous on Beacon Hill. Mr. Reardan, for example, has had an opportunity—although we wish it might have been a longer one—to see for himself just what the specialized service of the local Teachers' College means to this whole section.

It is too bad that he enters upon his new office under the shadow of the circumstances to which we have alluded. But those very circumstances constitute a challenge which we sincerely hope he will meet. By all precedents, Mr. Curley, either as governor or in some subsequent connection, will sooner or later ask Mr. Reardan for his pay, in the form of special favors to himself or his friends. When that time comes, Mr. Reardan will have his opportunity to dispel any question as to his own attitude toward the true responsibilities of his new office. And in successfully meeting that test, he will enter upon the greater opportunity to establish for himself a career of distinguished service in his chosen field.

TRANSCRIPT

North Adams, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

LOCAL APPOINTEES  
TAKE OATH TODAY

James G. Reardan and  
Atty. Daniel E.  
Kiley

IN BOSTON

Tenure of Former as Education Commissioner  
Begins at Once—Latter to Assume Court Clerk Duties Later.

James G. Reardan, superintendent of Adams public schools who was yesterday appointed by Governor James M. Curley as state commissioner of education, and Attorney Daniel E. Kiley, Jr., who was named as clerk of the Adams District court, were in Boston today and subscribed to the oath for their respective offices.

Mr. Reardan, accompanied by Mrs. Reardan, as well as William J. McConnell, an instructor at Adams high school and Mrs. McConnell, left last night for Medway where they remained over night at the home of Mr. Reardan's parents. This morning Philip S. Sayles, principal of Adams high school and Mrs. Sayles left for Boston to be present when Mr. Reardan was sworn in as commissioner of education.

Attorney Kiley, accompanied by his father, Daniel E. Kiley, Sr., also left this morning for Boston. Mr. Reardan's tenure of office began as soon as he took the oath, as Dr. Payson Smith was a hold over, but in the case of Mr. Kiley the present term of Edwin K. McPeck does not expire until December 30th.

Both Adams men were kept busy late yesterday afternoon and last night responding to congratulations that came in the form of personal greetings, telephone messages and telegrams.

Mr. Reardan, who resides on B street with his wife and four children, plans to continue to make his home in Adams at least during the winter and if possible all of the time, commuting to and from Boston over week-ends.

With his tenure of office starting as soon as he takes oath as commissioner of education, Mr. Reardan

*Continued*



will for a time hold two positions at once. He is still superintendent of Adams public schools, a position to which he was elected last June. It is expected he will soon tender his resignation from the superintendency but he will probably continue to serve as superintendent until a successor has been appointed and is ready to take over the position. As the term of Attorney McPeck as clerk of the Adams District court does not expire until December 30th and the fiscal year for the year ends the following day it is expected the taking over of that position by Mr. Kiley will be deferred until January 1st, 1936, or as that day is a legal holiday, until the following day.

**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

**TIMES**  
Beverly, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## EFFORTS TO BOOST INCOME TAX AND REPEAL OATH LAW

**Bitter Controversies Are  
Anticipated in the  
Legislature**

By GENE LORICK  
I. N. S. Staff Correspondent

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Increase the income to the State from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3½ to 5 per cent on horses and from 3½ to 10 per cent on the whippets.

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Lower the age limit for State welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

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**Press Clipping Service**  
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**NEWS**

Bangor, Me.

DEC 19 1935

## Curley to Release Scores of Prisoners During Week

BOSTON, Dec. 18—(AP)—Scores of inmates in Massachusetts penal institutions, including two serving life sentences for murder, were gladdened tonight by news of their pending release by Christmas.

Gov. James M. Curley announced that 200 prisoners serving sentences for drunkenness at the state farm would be released on parole during a five-day period ending Christmas Day.

On the other hand, Richard Olney, chairman of the board of paroles, set the figure at "a little more than 100," "many of whom," he added, "would have been freed at that time anyway."

The gates of the women's reformatory at Sherborn would be opened for 20 women there, Gov. Curley said, and the state board of paroles, he added, has authorized the release of 15 serving sentences at Concord by Christmas and 14 more by Jan. 31, he added.

Announcement of the Christmas "gift" paroles was made prior to the meeting of the council at which

the Governor recommended clemency for five prisoners through commutation of their sentences to make them eligible for parole.

Action on the Governor's commutation recommendations was deferred by the council until a special session next Monday.

One of the lifers is Samuel Powers of Westfield, imprisoned since 1914 for the murder of his wife. Curley asked the council to commute his sentence to 20 years, making him eligible for parole.

The other is Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in 1920 for murdering Mary B. Lavoie. Commutation of the sentence to 20 years was asked for Birusz to make him eligible for parole with the understanding he be deported to Poland, his native country.

The three other prisoners for whom commutation was asked included Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in 1932 to 10 to 12 years for burning a building. The governor requested a reduction to four to 12 years.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

TIMES  
Beverly, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## SMITH APPOINTED BUT TURNED DOWN; REARDON GETS JOB

Education Commissioner  
for Many Years Is  
Ousted

(Special to the Times)

STATE HOUSE, Boston, Dec. 19.—By a master stroke Governor James M. Curley yesterday secured confirmation of James G. Reardon, Adams superintendent of schools, as commissioner of education.

Over the protests of Councilors Winfield A. Schuster, Frank A. Brooks, Joseph B. Grossman, and Lieutenant Governor Hurley, Democratic Councilors turned down confirmation of Dr. Payson Smith whose name Governor Curley had submitted for reappointment.

Lieutenant Governor Hurley joined with Republican members in approval of the Smith appointment, but aligned himself with the Democratic membership in approving the nomination of Reardon.

With Democratic members Daniel H. Coakley, James J. Brennan, William G. Hennessy, Phillip J. Russell, Morton H. Burdick and Lieutenant Governor Joseph L. Hurley, the Republican membership was swamped as the Reardon confirmation was rushed through after the Smith proposal was rejected.

Prior to the session of the Council Governor Curley conferred for more than an hour and a half with the Democratic membership after which followed the session and the ostensible move to sidetrack Smith and assure Reardon of approval.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
BANNER  
Bennington, Vt.

DEC 19 1935

## Educators Reject Curley Appointment

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 19.—Educators throughout western Massachusetts last night protested vigorously against the failure to reappoint Dr. Payson Smith commissioner of education. Leaders in schools and colleges expressed keen disappointment at the action of the governor and his council in passing over Dr. Smith. The consensus was that Massachusetts has suffered an irreparable educational loss and that the welfare of the children has been sacrificed to politics.

Though few commented directly on the appointment of James G. Reardon of Adams as Dr. Smith's successor, they voiced regret that a supporter of the teacher's oath bill which has met with opposition by teachers in all parts of the state should head the department of education.

President William A. Neilson of Smith college regards the situation as "a calamity for the interests of education in Massachusetts." Prof. S. Ralph Harlow of the Smith faculty expressed the opinion that the teachers of the state will continue to fight for the repeal of the oath bill in spite of the appointment of a commissioner supporting "patriotism by compulsion."

Superintendent of Schools John Granrud, who seemed almost stunned by the news, said: "For years Dr. Payson Smith has been recognized as one of the 10 foremost public school educators in the country. Despite rumors to the contrary, until today no one could convince me that Governor Curley would remove him from the office he has held with such distinction for 16 years for no good reason at all. I'm not so concerned about Dr. Smith. He can easily take care of himself. I am, however, concerned over the fact that his removal means that the educational welfare of every child in this commonwealth has been sacrificed."

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

Telegram  
Bridgeport, Ct.

DEC 19 1935

Date

## CHRISTMAS TO BRING PRISONERS FREEDOM

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—(AP) Scores of inmates in Massachusetts penal institutions, including two serving life sentences for murder, were gladdened tonight by news of their expected release by Christmas.

Governor James M. Curley announced that 200 persons serving sentences for drunkenness at the State Farm alone would be paroled next week.

On the other hand, Richard Olney, chairman of the Board of Paroles, set the State Farm figure at "a little more than 100," many of whom, he added "would have been freed at that time anyway."

The gates of the women's reformatory at Sherborn will be opened for 20 women Governor Curley said and the State Board of Parole, he added, has authorized the release of 15 serving sentences at Concord by Christmas and 14 more by Jan. 31.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

Enterprise  
Brockton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

Date

## Stoughton COURT CLERK REAPPOINTED

STOUGHTON, Dec. 19.—Last night and to-day Albert A. Ward, clerk of the District court of Southern Norfolk, has been receiving congratulations from officers, lawyers and other residents of this and the other towns in the district, including Avon, Canton and Sharon upon his reappointment yesterday by Gov. Curley for a five-year term. The governor's council confirmed the appointment yesterday afternoon. The appointment came as a reward for faithful and efficient services.



Press Clipping Service

2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

Enterprise  
Brockton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

Date

# Brockton Teachers 324-10 for Smith

**Adams Man, Only 35,  
State Commissioner  
of Education.**

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—(UP)—James Gerrard (Roddy) Reardan, 35-year-old small-town school superintendent, to-day took the oath as State education commissioner—one of the youngest men in the United States to hold such an office.

The oath was administered by Gov. James M. Curley, whose appointment of Reardan Wednesday brought stinging rebukes from republican and democratic newspapers alike. Both Curley and Reardan are democrats.

Press attacks were directed not at Reardan personally but at the manner in which his appointment was put through the executive council. Curley first announced he would reappoint Commissioner Payson Smith, but added that if the council, which is Curley-controlled, should reject Smith, he would appoint Reardan.

By a vote of five to four the council rejected Smith, and then, by a vote of six to two, confirmed Reardan. Smith was serving his 20th year as commissioner.

Representative editorial comment: Boston Post (Independent-democratic)—“... Why was it necessary to go through all this hypocritical hocus pocus to land him (Reardan) in office? ... the whole business reeks with political chicanery of a sort unusual in Massachusetts. Our citizens are getting a liberal education into the wiles of politics these days.”

Boston Herald (republican)—“... Disgraceful as the removal itself was, the methods employed were just as bad. ... The governor is utterly childish if he has the notion that this self-serving action will deceive anybody, even the most gullible. ... The whole episode marks a new low in the administration of the affairs of this commonwealth.”

Meanwhile the ousted Smith hinted he might issue a statement later.

Reardan's promotion from a \$3600-a-year job as superintendent of

schools in the Berkshire county town of Adams to the \$9000-a-year commissionership, which carries a five-year term, comes only 12 years after his graduation from Boston College.

He was born July 22, 1900, at Medway, where his parents, William and Mary Reardan, 79 and 78 years old, respectively, still live. The first couple to be married at St. Joseph's church, Medway, they will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary next Sept. 16.

After attending the public schools, young Reardan entered Boston College. He used to get up at 5 A. M. daily so he could milk the cows before going to classes.

During the World war he was a member of the U. S. army. Being graduated from Boston College in 1923, he studied at Boston and Harvard Universities before taking his master's degree. Thereafter he served successfully as assistant principal and principal of East Bridgewater High school and superintendent of schools in that town. While teaching there he coached the football team.

It was while in East Bridgewater that he married the former Anita Thorndike, daughter of the late Judge H. C. Thorndike.

Last June Reardan became school superintendent at Adams.

A football player while at Boston College, Reardan is a husky, full-faced six-footer. But despite his physique he is better at indoor than outdoor sports, playing good games of dominoes and checkers but mediocre golf.

James G. Reardan.



New State Commissioner of Education.

**Choice of Reardan Is  
Not Popular in  
This City.**

Appointment and confirmation of James G. Reardan, superintendent of schools in Adams and formerly head of East Bridgewater schools, as State commissioner of education, succeeding Dr. Payson Smith, does not meet with approval of the majority of teachers in the Brockton school system, according to a vote taken on Tuesday. The poll showed 324 favored retention of Dr. Smith while 10 were opposed.

Gov. Curley on Wednesday submitted the name of Dr. Smith, which was turned down by the executive council five to four on a straight party vote except that Lieut.-Gov. Hurley left the democrats and joined the republicans who supported the nominee. After the rejection Gov. Curley submitted Reardan's name, which was approved by the six democrats and opposed by the three republicans.

The local poll did not include all of the teachers, it was revealed today, as some were absent or could not be reached in time to vote, but this number was very small. The teachers were asked to show by a vote how they stood on Dr. Smith. There was no mention made of Supt. Reardan.

As a result of this poll directors of the Brockton Teachers Association Wednesday afternoon sent telegrams to Hugh Nixon, secretary of the Massachusetts Teachers Federation, and Gov. Curley expressing the “misrepresentation” that had been made in reference to a story released from Boston that Reardan had the unanimous support of teachers throughout the State.

Ronald F. Holt, president of the Brockton Teachers Association, gave a portion of the telegram to the Enterprise as follows:

"The Brockton Teachers Association regrets the action of the board of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers Federation in rescinding the vote of confidence extended to Dr. Payson Smith. This association feels there has been misrepresentation of the true feelings of the teachers of Massachusetts. A poll taken of the teachers of Brockton indicated 324 teachers in favor of Dr. Payson Smith and 10 opposed."

#### Statement by Scully.

Supt. of Schools Scully issued a brief statement to-day, paying tribute to Dr. Smith, who he said was one of the outstanding educators in the United States. His statement follows:

"It is with regret that I view the passing of Dr. Payson Smith as commissioner of education in this State. He was one of the outstanding educators in the United States and did a great job for the 20 years or so that he served as commissioner of education. Superintendents of schools

throughout the State in general held him in the highest regard and also regret that he no longer will be educational head in this State."

#### Known In District.

Mr. Reardan, new commissioner of education, is well known in Brockton and throughout the district, having been connected with the schools of East Bridgewater as a teacher and later superintendent.

He came to East Bridgewater from Medway, is a graduate of Boston College and did graduate work at Harvard University. He came to East Bridgewater in 1925 as a teacher and taught for three years. With the retirement of Edgar H. Grout as superintendent he was named as his successor and held that position until last June, when he accepted an offer to become superintendent of schools in Adams.

His appointment to this Adams post was exceptionally gratifying to him as he was selected from a field of four or more candidates who were considered among the best in the State. While in East Bridgewater he married Miss Anita Thorndike, daughter of the late Judge and Mrs. Herbert C. Thorndike of that town.

They have four children, Cynthia, James G., Jr., Susan and Rosemary.

During his years in East Bridgewater he was active in the Plymouth County Teachers Association and held several offices and was also active in the High School Principals' Association. Prior to his leaving East Bridgewater for his new duties in Adams he was given a testimonial banquet and presented an engraved wrist watch.

Mr. Reardan spoke before the Brockton Kiwanis Club last July, being presented by James H. Burke, programme chairman for that meeting. He joined the Robert Emmet Club of Brockton several months ago.

Speaking for the Brockton Grade Teachers' Club in regard to the appointment of James G. Reardan as commissioner of education in this State, Miss Dorothea Flood, president of that group, pledges co-operation to him. Her statement:

*concluded*  
"No one denies that Dr. Payson Smith, while commissioner of education, improved the educational conditions in Massachusetts and will be a distinct loss to the educational system. Since Mr. Reardan has been appointed we shall co-operate with him."

#### Press Clipping Service

2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

Enterprise  
Brockton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

Date

### Mr. Curley Plays Politics.

**J**AMES G. REARDAN, superintendent of schools at Adams, formerly of East Bridgewater, is the new State commissioner of education, succeeding Dr. Payson Smith, who served 19 years. Dr. Smith's reputation as an educator is national. Mr. Reardan is virtually unknown, has filled no important administrative position and has yet to prove his ability and fitness. His appointment and immediate confirmation by the governor's council were political moves.

Gov. Curley first submitted the name of Dr. Smith. It is common knowledge, however, that he did not wish to retain the commissioner and was not unresponsive to organized opposition. On Nov. 16, before the organized opposition developed, the directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation commended Dr. Smith's notable service—and refrained from word or gesture savoring of pressure.

More recent indorsement of Mr. Reardan by a majority of the directors, 10 opposed to this action and outspoken in declaring it was political exploitation of the organization, was in no sense what it purported to be—the sentiment of 21,000 Massachusetts teachers.

Mr. Curley knew before he submitted Dr. Smith's name the appointment would not be confirmed by his council, as his subsequent action proved, for had he desired to continue Dr. Smith in office he would have declined to make another nomination.



Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

CHRONICLE  
Brookline, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

POLITICS  
WITH  
COLOR

Curley Causes Confusion

For some months now the Republicans have been all hot and bothered in connection with the 1936 gubernatorial nomination. The cry has been: "Beat Curley." Potential candidates were dissected mercilessly with a view to finding out if they could conceivably hold their own on the stump. Those who feared the Governor the most liked Saltonstall's chances least. Someone like ex-Governor Fuller or Robert T. Bushnell looked like a better bet. Haigis, though not renowned as a scrapper, at least would not be as vulnerable as the Speaker. Joseph Warner would have done well a decade or so ago when the Democrats provided far less opposition of a serious nature. Sending Warner out after Curley, however, would be too much like asking a lamb to chew up a lion.

Then, just as the G. O. P. strategy was being perfected, Governor Curley upsets the apple-cart with the announcement that he has decided, all by himself, that he will be the next United States Senator. Rather tough on the Hon. Marcus Coolidge, who had not been told that his seat was practically vacant. I cannot quite understand why the Governor neglected to tip him off. Of course, the voters will go through the formality of an election next November, but it will amount to nothing more than a ratification of Mr. Curley's modest decision. After all, there would be some unkind souls who would murmur something about distance lending enchantment.

Personally, I am getting a bit cynical as I endeavor to follow the gyrations of our professional politicians. Some of them have learned to change their minds more rapidly and frequently than a woman changes her clothes. In other words, it occurs to me that maybe our astute Governor is playing possum and trying to out-manuever the Republicans. If they could be convinced that he was really headed for the Senate, they might nominate someone for Governor whom Mr. Curley could defeat handily (I am re-

ferring, of course, to the pre-primary convention). At that point, the Governor would suddenly discover that the welfare of the State, and possibly the nation itself, demanded that he should reverse himself once more and allow himself to be re-elected Governor. Then the Republicans would be forced to shift their strategy a second time.

Well, let's watch the proceedings closely during the coming weeks. There will almost surely be some important developments early in the New Year. For example, the Jay Benton boom, which was choked off at his fiftieth birthday dinner not long ago, may be hauled out into the open, regardless of Mr. Benton's wishes. Then there is the speculation about a possible Bushnell-Schuster ticket. This grew out of the handling of the Republican Club rally at the Statler a few weeks ago. The red-headed councillor got a special break and cashed in pronto. Schuster is making quite a swing around the circuit, talking to women's clubs and tearing the Governor limb from limb. I am told that he is doing a pretty good job. Robert M. Washburn, however, poked considerable fun at Schuster in his weekly column and suggested quite pointedly that the latter's constant criticism of Saltonstall's candidacy would be more appropriate and fitting from some other source.

Also, do not lose sight of the fact that Gaspar Bacon is in our midst again. Surely he cannot be counted out of the picture completely. He may not feel free to contest for any office himself, but he still has thousands of friends. Again, there is Henry Parkman, a constant threat on the horizon. He may not look as fierce as Bob Bushnell, but he packs the same punch. Chris Herter and George Tarbell are probably too useful and necessary in the Legislature to be considered for a place on the State ticket; the same holds true of Albert F. Bigelow, the tireless chairman of ways and means.

Finally, we have the most intriguing figure of all, former Governor Alvan T. Fuller of Malden and Rye Beach, New Hampshire. One of the more lurid Boston papers has been playing him up lately and suggesting that he may be planning to encourage Mr. Curley to run for the Senate on the Democratic side while he takes care of the gubernatorial nomination for the G. O. P. You may be very sure that Governor Curley would welcome heartily any proposition which would remove Mr. Fuller from his path. He has not forgotten the humiliating defeat which the automotive expert pinned on him in the fall of 1924. Personally, I think that it is quite largely the threat of a Fuller candidacy for Governor which impels Mr. Curley Washingtonwards.

P. W. C.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

CHRONICLE  
Brookline, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

*The Political Arena*

With the "bye elections" out of the way and Christmas spirit in the air, the politicians have relaxed for a moment but it's just the beginning, boys, just the beginning. For the relaxation is only to stretch out their muscles in preparation for the actual warfare which will begin right after New Year's and then the preliminary skirmishes will be shoved aside, some of the polite terms will be forgotten and Massachusetts will be plunged, rather early this time, into the midst of a political battle such as has not been seen in many a year.

For there's a distinctly different atmosphere this time. Seems as though every prominent Republican one mentions is inclined to believe he could be elected Governor, and I don't know but what each of them is correct. There are so many announced and avowed candidates now that one steps on them in corridors and then there are lurking in the background, but not too far back, so many tentative candidates with their lightning rods carefully set that one begins to wonder just what will happen if each man votes for himself. They are all good men and true and whoever is nominated, the party is certain of a standard bearer capable of waging the hottest kind of a fight. The spirit of supreme confidence pervades everywhere in direct contrast with the spirit of "well, we are licked" that spread around little more than a year ago. It augurs well for a change in administration up on Beacon Hill and for a Republican Senator in Washington.

Of course the Republican candidate against Senior Curley will be hampered in one respect, for the G. O. P. nominee will have no gardener to detect dictaphones and there can hardly be a jewel robbery, for everyone knows that Republicans haven't as many jewels lying around these days as in former years. But there exists a belief that the voters will decide this next election on the merits of the candidates and not be swayed by wildly partisan, vicious radio attacks such as undeniably exerted tremendous influence in the last campaign. Oh, those same attacks will be there all right, but the public is pretty well fed up by now on that sort of thing and ridicule has replaced bland wonderment and gullibility, and when ridicule forces its way in then the politician subjected to its blasts is lost.

State politics are at present occupying most of the attention and thought of leaders, national politics will come later. But just now the one ambition and hope of the Republicans is to win Massachusetts back to the paths and ways of its early leaders and statesmen. In doing that, the locals will have just about done their share also in placing the nation itself back on that footing.

ITEM

Clinton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM OF '36

## Efforts to Be Made to

### Boost State In- come Tax

## DEADLINE FOR BILLS JAN. 11

By GENE LORICK

International News Service Staff  
Correspondent

Boston, Dec. 19 (INS)—Efforts to boost the State Income Tax revenue and to repeal the controversial Teachers' Oath Law loomed, today, as the biggest battles confronting the incoming Legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in history.

Proposals facing the solons would place 200,000 new contributors to State tax totals, through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

The jobs of half the Representatives and Senators will be at stake when the session opens. Governor James M. Curley announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the Legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems that will face the Legislature, some of which may be written into the statutes, and others snowed under in the battle of ballots, either in House or Senate:

Reduce State income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2,000 to \$1,400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2,500 to \$1,900.

Revise Compulsory Automobile Insurance law, with respect to the recent Supreme Court decision, which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if

injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the Executive Council. Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield, of Boston. Senator Joseph A. Langone, Jr., has filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the State from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3½ to 5 per cent on horses and from 3½ to 10 per cent on the whippets.

Abolish capital punishment — a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week, now in effect in State institutions, to County institutions.

Place the State Police constabulary under civil service.

Raze the old State's prison at Charlestown, either construct a new institution on the present site, or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for State welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and clarify statutes prohibiting the illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor.

Prevent employment, by the State, of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

Two hundred and fifty bills have been filed—202 in the House, 60 less than last year, on this date, and 48 in the Senate. The deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., Jan. 11.

HERALD

Everett, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

and Charles O'Neil

### PRIEST DEMANDS OPENING

The delay in opening the Chelsea drawbridge is resulting in tremendous jams of traffic in South Everett during the morning and evening rush hours.

A Chelsea priest, Very Rev Cyprian Adamski OMC, pastor of St Stanislaus church, will lead in the movement to bring pressure upon authorities to quit promising and open the bridge.

Fr Adamski made a personal visit to the bridge last week and stated in an interview that from all appearances the work is being delayed. He said he had sufficient reasons to believe that the promise of its being opened this week was just another promise and that if the bridge were opened the South draw will be closed.

The priest who has interested himself in the protest, is doing so purely from an unselfish motive. A large percentage of his parishioners reside in that section and the closing of the bridge has worked many hardships on them. It has resulted in loss of tenants and business in that section.

"It is a shame the way that officials have treated the people of Chelsea and the North Shore," said Fr Adamski. "They have failed to make any real effort to open the bridge. All they have done is to make a lot of promises and then offer excuses. The time and money said to be involved in the work on the bridge should have been sufficient to do it in a much shorter time."

"I am going to personally take up the fight of the people in my district. I plan to appeal to Mayor Mansfield of Boston and if necessary to Gov James M. Curley. There is no reason why the people of Chelsea should tolerate existing conditions any longer. We want action and no more promises. I visited the bridge this week and from all appearances there has been but little progress made in the repair work."



**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

**HERALD**  
Everett, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

**IT IS SAID**

That the Herald never did believe in civil service and now it believes in it even less in this state.

That the Everett High School will do its usual worthwhile job in caring for hundreds of poor people who otherwise would have no Christmas dinner.

That the council did a good job in defeating the order for a \$50 week "coordinator" for the W P A.

That the shortage in the city collector's office has been definitely fixed at \$3567. Now the question arises who, if anybody, will pay it back into the till.

That the judge who recommended fewer children to those on welfare is being violently condemned by many people. The judge may have been thinking of the taxpayer who has to deny his own children to support the welfare children.

That the Wakefield Item says: "Even a taxpayer has the right to say how many guests he shall entertain."

That what the Republican party needs is more G O P babies.

That a Townsend third party appears to be in the making. If either of the two leading parties endorsed this scheme it would be the same as committing suicide.

That the whole idea is the cruelest hoax ever committed on the needy aged.

That Gov Curley and Mayor Mansfield are having a pretty fight, the repercussions of which will be noted in the next election.

That the Herald wishes its readers a very Merry Christmas.

That scores of stores are decorated for the holiday and many residences already display window lights and gaily decorated trees.

That Herbert Hoover, ex-president, has his fighting blood up and is calling a spade a spade.

That this week's Herald contains many suggestions for Christmas gifts.

That Mayor-Elect Lewis has decreed that members of the city council hiring tuxedos for the inaugural must pay for them out of their own pockets, something they have not done of late although collecting a salary.

That Massachusetts get only \$1 back for every \$18 it pays the Federal government. Southern states find it the other way around.

That Gov Curley is on the way out, although he may not know it.

That the appointment of a commissioner of education smells like one of those things that get killed so often on the highways.

That business is booming. The national debt has reached a new high record.

That whether the governor's council should be abolished or not is a question to be debated but that most of the present members of that body should be abolished admits of no argument.

That the usual substantial contributions to the "shoe and stocking" fund was made at today's luncheon of the Everett Rotary Club.

That considering the fact that Commissioner of Taxation Henry F Long is nationally known as a most outstanding official, it is a ten days wonder that he was reappointed by Gov Curley.

That there are still 2300 on the pay roll of the NRA Washington office, although that brain trust bubble was burst by the supreme court months ago.

That there are certain advantages in a one year term for governor.

That the latest government projects is the proposed widening of Shirley Gut. If it is done there will probably be sidewalks built on either side.

**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

**ARGUS ADVOCATE**  
East Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

**Reader Raps Goodwin  
On Political Ideas**

The following letter was sent to the Argus-Advocate by an East Boston reader:

"Frank A. Goodwin, the assistant candidate for Governor last year, blandly says there is no longer two major political parties, there is only, so he says, 'the in's and the out's.' This smooth person, who often concocted schemes to belittle the American Federation of Labor which, however, survived his Blackstonian onslaughts, would not be expressing himself thus had he received the Democratic, or the Republican nomination, for Governor of Massachusetts.

Instead, he would have humbly proclaimed himself the saviour of whichever of those two parties

might have unconsciously nominated him. It is amusing to those who know the facts, to read the political columnist observations of one of Hearst's papers of how reluctant (?) Goodwin was to accept his job as Motor Vehicle Registrar from Curley. No one, better than Goodwin himself, knows that a bargain was made and sealed as a reward for his political perfidy.

Goodwin forgets that he thought the Republican party was good enough for him when it elected him a Councilman and a Representative from East Boston, some years ago. Mr. Goodwin, so it is alleged, has reached the heights of unethical acumen in advocating the Townsend Plan, which out socializes Socialism itself.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

ENTERPRISE  
Falmouth, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## County Affairs

By DON TRAYSER

Miss Gladys E. Felton of Westboro has been appointed Assistant County Club agent for the Cape Cod Extension Service, according to announcement by County Agent Bertram Tomlinson. She was chosen by the Board of Trustees to succeed Mrs. Irene B. Pease, who resigned, effective Dec. 31, to return to her home at Wilbraham. Miss Felton will begin her new duties Dec. 26, being in charge of Home Economics 4-H clubs in Barnstable county.

At present a teacher in Westboro high school, Miss Felton is a graduate of Hudson high school and Framingham State Teachers College. She begins her new work with a fine background of technical training as a demonstrator of cooking ware, dietitian and cook, and home economics teacher. She has been a 4-H club member since she was 12, being winner of a trip to Camp Farley in 1925, to the National club congress in 1926. She has also attended the State 4-H camp at Amherst for 5 years, has been an all-star member since 1930, and all-star delegate to R. I. State camp in 1935.

County Agent Tomlinson has also announced appointment of James P. Edney as substitute club agent to take the place of Carl A. Fraser for six months. Mr. Fraser was awarded a leave of absence for that period to attend State College to work for a masters degree. Mr. Edney, a native of Acton, has been in charge of the cannery at the State farm. He has a long experience in club work.

The flow of Federal funds to Cape Cod, now large, will much larger if several big projects now approved, actually get underway. Harwich, which wants to build a municipal water supply system, has approval of a PWA grant of \$117,000, which is the usual 45 percent toward the project. Barnstable, which wants to

build a sewerage system in Hyannis, has a PWA tender of \$104,000. Both of these must be accepted by the towns, and the remaining sums necessary to do the jobs must be appropriated.

Hyannis also expects to get about \$40,000 for improvement of the airport it voted to buy if it gets the \$40,000. This sum has been promised by officials who have the approval power. Hyannis State Teachers' College has just got \$23,650 for building a recreation field and arboretum. And last, as well as largest, Governor Curley announced last week that \$300,000 WPA money had been made available to begin work cutting out roads in the new National Guard Camp site in Bourne, Falmouth and Sandwich.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

ENTERPRISE  
Falmouth, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Curley Promise Is Found Lacking

Only Surveyors On Camp Site  
Though Governor Said Hundreds Would Be On Job

About 30 surveyors and helpers were at work on the site of the national guard camp yesterday—the day on which, according to Governor Curley's statement of several days ago, active work developing the camp was to begin. Two national guard planes flew over the territory yesterday.

Governor Curley said that from 100 to 700 of the unemployed were to be given jobs at road construction. The Federal Re-Employment office for this district at Bourne said that it had received no calls for men. The office has plenty of applicants for work but no men qualified under WPA rules. The Bourne WPA office said it had no men not employed.

Governor Curley said the first money for the camp work was to come from WPA. Questioners suggested this week that it would be impossible to find the desired help registered on the Cape under WPA rules.

In Falmouth Harry Waterman, ERA administrator, has not succeeded to WPA responsibilities. George N. Holden of the Welfare office explained that certification and assignment of WPA men is done from an office in Hyannis which is under direction of Robert F. Cross, the regional administrator with headquarters in Fall River.

According to the regulations announced, only men who were on ERA or Welfare lists between May 1 and October 31 are eligible for WPA jobs. It is the assumption of officials here that if this supply of men is exhausted, there will be an opportunity for new registration. Mr. Holden has no accurate check on the number of eligible Falmouth men who are now working. He does say that if the WPA projects which have been filed are accepted, Falmouth will have more men working this winter than last. There should be plenty of Falmouth eligibles to supply the first needs of the camp. Men who have had jobs at the canal are anxious to get on projects nearer home because of the cost of transportation to Bourne.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

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HERALD-NEWS  
Fall River, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## PLANS HEARING ON GARDNER CLEMENCY

BOSTON, Dec. 19, (UP)—Governor Curley announced today that he will request a public hearing Monday on the proposed Christmas clemency for Harry A. Gardner of Worcester, now serving a 10-to-12-year sentence in State Prison for arson.

Curley said the protest by "certain church dignitaries of Worcester" against his recommendation for commutation of Gardner's sentence had prompted him to refer the protests to the State Committee on Pardons.



**Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square**

**Boston Mass.**

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**HERALD-NEWS**

**Fall River, Mass.**

DEC 19 1935

## Curley Council Methods Given Strong Rebuke

### Naming of Smith, With Mates to Vote Him Down, Condemned.

BOSTON, Dec. 19, (UP)—James Gerrard (Roddy) Reardon, 35-year-old small-town school superintendent, today took the oath as State Education Commissioner—one of the youngest men in the United States to hold such an office.

The oath was administered by

### Hurley Cast His Vote First For Smith, Then Gave Reardon Support

Early reports of the Executive Council meeting in the State House yesterday were that Lieutenant Governor Hurley voted against confirming the reappointment of former State Commissioner of Education Payson Smith. Later, however, Governor Curley announced the former local Mayor had voted to retain Mr. Smith, but five other Democrats, including Councillor Philip J. Russell of this city, opposed confirmation.

The Governor's announcement was confirmed by William L. Read, secretary of the Executive Council, who also said Mr. Hurley voted in favor of the appointment of James G. Reardon of Adams to Mr. Smith's post.

Governor James M. Curley, whose appointment of Reardon yesterday brought stinging rebukes from Republican and Democratic newspapers alike. Both Curley and Reardon are Democrats.

Press attacks were directed not at Reardon personally but at the manner in which his appointment was put through the Executive Council. Curley first announced he would reappoint Commissioner Payson Smith, but added that if the Council, which is Curley-controlled, should reject Smith, he would appoint Reardon.

By a vote of 5 to 4 the council rejected Smith, and then, by a vote of 6 to 3, confirmed Reardon. Smith was serving his 20th year as commissioner.

Representative editorial comment:

BOSTON POST—(Independent-Democratic)—“... Why was it necessary to go through all this hypocritical hocus pocus to land him (Reardon) in office? ... The whole business reeks with political chicanery of a sort unusual in Massachusetts. Our citizens are getting a liberal education into the wiles of politics these days.”

BOSTON HERALD (Republican)—“... Disgraceful as the removal itself was, the methods were childish if he has the notion that this self-serving action will deceive anybody, even the most gullible ... The whole episode marks a new low in the administration of the affairs of this Commonwealth.”

### Smith Will Talk

Meanwhile the ousted Smith hinted he might issue a statement later.

Reardon's promotion from a \$3,600-a-year job as Superintendent of Schools in the Berkshire county town of Adams to the \$9,000-a-year commissionership, which carries a five-year term, comes only 12 years after his graduation from Boston College.

He was born July 22, 1900, at Medway, where his parents, William and Mary Reardon, 79 and 78 years old, respectively, still live. The first couple to be married at St. Joseph's church, Medway, they will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary next Sept. 16.

After attending the public schools, young Reardon entered Boston College. He used to get up at 5 a. m. daily so he could milk the cows before going to classes.

During the World War he was a member of the U. S. Army.

Graduating from Boston College in 1923, he studied at Boston and Harvard Universities before taking his master's degree. Thereafter he served successively as assistant principal and principal of East Bridgewater High school and superintendent of schools in that town. While teaching there he coached the football team.

It was while in East Bridgewater that he married the former Anita Thorndike, daughter of the late Judge H. C. Thorndike of Brockton.

Last June Reardon became school superintendent at Adams.

A football player while at Boston College, Reardon is a husky, full-faced six-footer, but despite his physique he is better at indoor than outdoor sports, playing good games of dominoes and checkers but mediocre golf.

At Adams he has lived in a cream-colored eight-room house on B street with his wife and their four children, Cynthia, 6, James, Jr., 5, Susan 3, and Rosemary, 1. The children's pet is a 150-pound great Dane named “Donny.”

The Governor's Council confirmed reappointment of two state officials yesterday.

One was Henry F. Long, state commissioner of taxation and corporations, in public service for many years. He was reappointed for a term of three years, at a salary of \$7,500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31-year-old commissioner of public safety, appointed by Governor Curley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely. He will serve five years at \$6,000 annually.

**Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square**

**Boston Mass.**

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**HERALD-NEWS**

**Fall River, Mass.**

DEC 19 1935

## Curley, Smith, Reardon Talk

### Issue Statements on the Change Made in Department of Education.

As the leadership of the State Department of Education changed hands today for the first time in 20 years, Governor Curley, Commissioner of Education James G. Reardon and the latter's predecessor, Payson Smith, issued statements, as follows:

Mr. Reardon—“My interest from now on will be to uphold the high standards which have made Massachusetts conspicuous in the field of education. I shall be ready to do everything in my power to further adult education, to maintain and, if possible, improve the standing of State schools, and to do everything possible to secure employment for the young men and women citizens of Massachusetts who are qualified for teaching positions. ...

“Regarding the oath. At the present, the law of the State is that the teachers should take this oath. The legislature has decided that present such an oath is necessary. As long as the law made by the general court exists, there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law abiding citizen. Those citizens who feel that the oath is not necessary, can have recourse to the constitutional method of changing the law.

“Concerning the necessity of this law at present, that depends on the facts which seemed to justify the general court in passing this law and the ability as well as the willingness of educational authorities to handle the situation without the aid of special legislation.

“Concerning the observance of the law itself, I can see no objection to any educator taking an oath which obligates him only to the performance of what is a clear duty—an oath similar in most respects to that taken by lawyers and by many public officials in the State.”

Governor Curley—“I want to say that I wish you every success in the office to which you have been appointed. I have appreciation that the education and training of your predecessor was no greater than yours. If we all were to drop dead tomorrow other men and women would take our places who are even better qualified than we ever could be. This applies to the education department as well as any other place.

continued



*Concluded*  
"You have a real responsibility and I am confident you will discharge it. That is the truest statement ever made. We sometimes kid ourselves that we are indispensable. I repeat there is no one who is absolutely indispensable."

Dr. Smith—"I want to express my deep appreciation to the thousands of school officials, teachers and citizens who have given to me and to the Department of Education their support through the years in which I have been in their service and in that of the children of the Commonwealth, and for the continued confidence that has been shown me in recent months. I want also to speak of the invaluable service that the press of the state has rendered in acquainting the public with the work and activities of the department and its sincere and wholesome criticism of its policies.

"I have taken great pride and satisfaction in the office of Commissioner of Education, and I have made every effort to discharge its duties in a manner consistent with its high traditions. In that effort I have had at all times the invaluable support of the members of the State Board of Education, of my associates on my staff, and in the institutions associated with the Department of Education."

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NEWS

Framingham, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## OPPOSITION TO CURLEY CLEMENCY

### Prisoner Set Fire to Worcester Churches

WORCESTER, Dec. 19—Governor Curley's recommendation that the state prison sentence of Henry A. Gardner, 32, of Worcester, convicted of setting the fires which destroyed All Saints' Episcopal church and damaged Pleasant-St. Baptist church in January, 1932, be commuted to make the convict eligible for immediate parole, met with sharp and immediate opposition last night.

The recommendation addressed yesterday to the Governor's council, will be considered Monday morning at 10 a. m., by the pardon's committee of the council.

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NEWS

Framingham, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## State Legislature Appears Headed For Hectic Session

### Proposals Facing Solons on Beacon Hill Would Add 200,000 New Contributors to State Tax Totals

By GENE LORICK

International News Service Staff correspondent

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (INS)—Efforts to boost the State income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial teachers' oath law, loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming Massachusetts Legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the Gilded Dome.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place 200,000 new contributors to state tax totals. Through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

The jobs of half the representatives and senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence. Governor James M. Curley has announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the Legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems facing the legislature the "second annual session of the 149th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts"—some of which may be written into the statutes, and others snowed under in the battle of ballots either in House or Senate:

Reduce state income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2,000 to \$1,400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2,500 to \$1,900.

Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the recent Supreme court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the Executive council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Governor Curley.

Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Tangone, Jr., filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the State from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3 1-2 to 5 per cent on horses and from 3 1-2 to 10 per cent on the wippets.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week now in effect in state institutions to county institutions.

Place the State Police Constabulary under Civil Service.

Raze the old State's Prison at Charlestown, either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for State welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and Clarify statutes prohibiting illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor. Prevent employment by the state of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, sixty less than last year on this date, and 4,888, in the Senate. The deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., Jan. 11.

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Boston Mass.

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HERALD-NEWS

Fall River, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Political Grab Bag

—By Thomas K. Brindley—

*Weekly Stock Company Offering at State House Not Up to Par as Director Attempts Drama That Proves to Be Old Plot Dressed Up.*

Curley & Co. offered another of its weekly shows at the State House yesterday afternoon with a Statewide audience that didn't think much of the performance but did get a laugh out of the amateurish manner in which one scene was offered.

The director of the show played a leading role in that scene which was entitled, "I Think I'm Fooling the Public," or "How to Nominate a Man and Be Sure He Will Not Win."

The victim in this particular scene was Payson Smith, who has been Commissioner of Education in Massachusetts since the regime of former Governor Samuel McCall. He was up for reappointment.

Political writers have been commenting upon this event for weeks and the public looked for a real big time offering.

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What they got was pretty wretched.

The acting was poor and the finale lacked pep, being nothing more than a rehash of an offering staged several weeks ago.

Followers of Curley & Co.'s Wednesday matinees will remember the offering entitled: "Kilroy & Driscoll," or "Sure I'll Nominate You So Long As I Know You Haven't Got the Votes for Confirmation."

Mr. Curley staged that with his local aides—Joseph Leo Hurley and Philip J. Russell, Lieutenant Governor and Executive Councillor, respectively—playing dual roles.

They had to vote first for Mr. Kilroy knowing full well the other seven Councillors would oppose his appointment, then they had to join hands with their political brethren and confirm Mr. Driscoll's appointment.

The nomination of Mr. Driscoll put him in that select circle of political actors who can play dual roles—and collect for both if they are so disposed.

In addition to taking a spot in the local political show as Clerk of Court, Mr. Driscoll has a part-time routine at the State House as a Representative.

This week's show might have occasioned more interest had it not been for the Kilroy-Driscoll drama.

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Yesterday, the Governor opened the performance by submitting to the Council as Commissioner of Education the name of Dr. Smith. He tried to build up dramatic interest by announcing to the political scribes beforehand that he was going to reappoint the Commissioner.

They ran for the press room and sent the word out to the Statewide audience which sits in at the Wednesday matinees.

But hardly had they got the news off before the next scene was played.

The Governor was in that, too. He told the same scribes—they are in the weekly show as sort of extras—that if Mr. Smith wasn't confirmed, the name of James G. Reardon would be submitted to the Council.

That spoiled the whole plot.

*Continued*



SENTINEL  
Fitchburg, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

the collapse of the menace of the  
Third Internationale.

DR. SMITH'S REMOVAL

What Gov. Curley apparently believes is the height of political shrewdness and subtlety in the removal of Dr. Payson Smith is so obvious that it creaks and groans. He is at heart a mischievous child, and turned loose with the machinery of the government of this commonwealth to tinker with, he cannot resist the temptation to pull it apart, to hear the cries of delight from his friends and what he chooses to believe are "squawks" of his political opponents.

He had had his heart set upon the removal of Dr. Smith, who had served his commonwealth conscientiously and ably for 20 years, and was highly endorsed by the great mass of educators in the state. Mr. Curley, bent upon playing havoc and hearing the "squawks," decided that Dr. Smith must go.

Yet the governor knew that a lot of Dr. Smith's friends will vote next November. Lieut. Gov. Hurley also knew it. Consequently, after careful pre-arrangements, Gov. Curley submitted the name of Dr. Smith for reappointment. Mr. Hurley voted in favor, but five Democratic members of the council, as Mr. Curley knew they would, voted against Dr. Smith; and another name was immediately substituted.

You can hear the gears of the political board of strategy clicking in this most obvious maneuver. Nobody will be hoodwinked by it. At any other time, if the governor had an appointment he wished to have go through, the Democratic majority would not oppose it. If Mr. Curley had wanted Dr. Smith reappointed, he could have had his way, and promptly.

The governor is obsessed by his own mischievousness, which, when it is directed against the machinery of the state government, becomes highly reprehensible. In his obsession he interprets honest opposition as the "squawks" of those who are politically out of power.

The one compensating thought is that sooner or later, at the polls or otherwise, Mr. Curley may learn that the revolt against his practice of ward politics in the State House is founded upon deep, honest, sincere convictions and transcends anything that might be classed as mere political "squawking."

*concluded*  
As soon as the audience got wind of that, it knew what was going to happen.

It was like walking into a theater just as the mystery picture you came to see was ending and the whole story was revealed.

The Governor might just as well have told the newspapermen to advise the audience to go home, for the plot was uncovered.

Saying he was going to name Mr. Reardon if Mr. Smith failed of appointment was just like gathering the scribblers about him and announcing:

"James G. Reardon will be the next State Commissioner of Education. He'll start on the payroll tomorrow at \$9,000 a year. It is all taken care of, and while there may be a few formalities that will keep the outsiders guessing, you'll know it's just part of the show, so file your stories and go out for lunch. That's where we're going."

But the Governor, since the dictograph "mystery," has an eye for the drama, and he was apparently trying his hand at staging another one yesterday.

He spoiled the show himself.

Instead of a drama of intense political interest, it fell into the category of another comedy in Curley & Co.'s long list of ludicrous offerings.

The Lieutenant Governor had a little different role than usual yesterday. It appeared to be fashioned with an eye to possible gubernatorial honors and keeping opposing factions on his side.

One scene showed him voting to confirm the Smith appointment. He was in the same part of the stage as the Republican Councillors for that scene. But when the spotlight came on again, he had shifted over to his usual position at the head of the Democratic array and was voting with them to confirm Mr. Reardon.

Observers figured the idea was to get votes from people who were with both men instead of alienating the ballots of those with one or another of the candidates.

The other local actor in the show, Councillor Russell, played his usual part. He has only a few lines. They are all the same. The Governor proposes and he says yes. It's quite simple and keeps him in the front line of the chorus.

Fall River observers did enjoy a little mystery scene in yesterday's show. It concerned the appointment of one John E. Sullivan as deputy pilot commissioner for the Fourth Massachusetts District.

The reporters at the State House simply made a note that John Sullivan had been named to the position. Then came the hunt for the right John Sullivan.

But those who have studied what little initiative the local political actors have shown this year didn't have to hunt long. They simply put two and two together.

They made note of the fact that Lieutenant Governor Hurley has the say in local political assignments from the State House.

They remembered he has a law office in the Granite Block. They looked over the names of others situated in that building and presto! they found that one John E. Sullivan was attached to the company which operates the building.

There was no need of going further.

The deputy pilot commissioner now steers the course of men who earn their living on the bridges of ships—from an office in the Granite Block.



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Boston Mass.

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HERALD-NEWS

Fall River, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Many Christmas Pardons Planned

Christmas pardons and paroles, scheduled to be given 254 inmates of prisons, reformatories and the State Farm, will become effective within a few days. Two life term prisoners and 20 women inmates of reformatories are included in the list.

Additional inmates of the Concord Reformatory will be released before the end of the year, upon recommendation of the State Board of Parole, Governor Curley announced.

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BOSTON MASS.

NEWS

Framingham, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# EXTRA!

## Commissioner Reardon Takes Oath to Succeed Dr. Smith

### Youngest Educator to Hold Place At Head of Education in State Greeted By Family and Friends

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (INS)—The Teacher's Oath law must be upheld and the standing of the schools of the state maintained, James G. Reardon, 35, said today as he took the oath of office as Commissioner of Education.

The ex-Medway farm-boy, Boston college student, the youngest educator ever to hold the state commissionship and former superintendent of schools in Adams, received the oath of office surrounded by 100 relatives and friends from Gov. James M. Curley, who appointed him after the quick rejection by the Executive Council of Dr. Payson Smith. Dr. Smith was not present.

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BOSTON MASS.

SENTINEL

Fitchburg, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Reardon Takes Education Post; Smith Ousted

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—A 36-year-old Boston college graduate, James G. Reardon, succeeded Dr. Payson Smith as state commissioner of education today.

Reardon was sworn in by Gov. Curley this afternoon.

Reardon was nominated and confirmed 6-3 by the executive council yesterday after the council had rejected Gov. James M. Curley's renomination of Dr. Smith 5-4. He will receive \$9000 per year.

On the vote for Dr. Smith's renomination Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley joined the Republican members in voting to retain the veteran commissioner of 20 years standing. However, when Curley then submitted Reardon's name, Hurley voted for his confirmation.

Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, has called himself a "100 per cent supporter" of the teachers' oath law. Dr. Smith originally opposed it.

The council reappointed Henry F. Long as state commissioner of taxation and corporations and Paul G. Kirk as commissioner of public safety. Action was deferred on the appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.

Curley said he was undecided about reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney as director of the division of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman as commissioner of correction and Major George J. Cronin as state purchasing agent.

The terms of Kenney and Lyman expired Dec. 1 and Cronin's term ended Dec. 13.

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SENTINEL  
Franklin, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

## Medway Happy Over Favorite Son Being Named Commissioner

HOME TOWN CITIZENS  
FELICITATE JAMES REARDON  
AT PARENTS' HOME

Is Named Commissioner Of Education  
To Succeed Payson Smith

(Special to The Franklin Sentinel)

MEDWAY, Dec. 18 — "Roddy" Reardon came home tonight, 12 years out of Boston College, as the youngest Commissioner of Education the state—and possibly the country—has ever had.

Hurrying over the road from Adams, the 35-year-old successor to Dr. Payson Smith, returned to the Colonial homestead on Village street—where his parents have lived all their married life—to find the house filled with admiring, enthusiastic friends.

"Commissioner James Gerrard Reardon is here," they shouted gleefully. "Welcome home, commissioner."

Here, in the quiet town where the Reardons have lived for several generations, he used to arise at five in the morning to milk the cows and do the chores before he went to his classes at Boston College.

"'Roddy' wanted an education and he was willing to work hard for it," his friends said.

They came from Belmont and West Roxbury and Arlington and half a dozen other cities and towns to greet the new commissioner tonight. He didn't reach his old home until nearly midnight, but his reception was none the less enthusiastic.

Worn by the flood of phone calls and the constant stream of visitors, the new commissioner's 80-year-old father and 78-year-old mother had retired to await his homecoming. Every morning the father, William H. Reardon, goes at 7 A.M. to operate his finishing machine at the Fabyan Woolen Mills here. He has done this for 20 years, carrying a lunch with him and working a full eight hours. On the side, to pass away the evenings, the elder Reardon conducts an insurance business.

The mother, Mary Agnes (McGinniss) Reardon, is in remarkably good health. She, too, comes from a family long resident in Medway.

One of the commissioner's three brothers, William A. Reardon, a motor vehicles inspector attached to the Framingham branch registry, also lives at the Village street home.

The other brothers are John, New England manager of the Fabyan Mills, who lives in Medway, and Lawrence J., New England manager of the National Carloading Corporation, who lives in Millis. The new commissioner is the baby of the family.

Commissioner Reardon's wife and four children are now in Adams—where the commissioner became superintendent of schools last September. Just as soon as he can arrange it, Commissioner Reardon and his family will come here to live at the homestead.

"The door will always be open here—and so will the door on Beacon Hill," he said tonight after his arrival. He

preferred to make no discussion of his policies until after he has assumed office.

Mr. Reardon will be sworn in by Governor Curley at 11:30 o'clock tomorrow at the State House. At 11 A.M. friends will gather in the Hotel Bellevue for an informal reception.

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RECORDER  
Greenfield, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

Greenfield, Mass.,

## Gov. Curley Would Free Four Killers At State Prison

Authorizes Release of 200  
State Farm, 20 Women  
Inmates

BOSTON—Gov. Curley yesterday recommended the extension of executive clemency to four killers and one confessed pyromaniac now serving long term sentences at state prison. The executive council will meet in special session Monday to consider granting them commutations which will make them eligible for immediate parole.

The governor also announced that he has authorized the department of correction to release 200 state farm inmates, mostly habitual drunkards, and 20 women's reformatory inmates before Christmas.

The state board of parole, at his direction, also will release 15 first offenders from the reformatory at Concord with the release of 14 others to be ordered before Jan. 31.

The state prison convicts for whom he has recommended sentence commutations are Samuel Powers of Westfield and Wojciech Birosz of Salem, lifers; and William Hooper of Lynn, Henry A. Gardner of Worcester and Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge.

Curley's recommendation that the state prison sentence of Henry A. Gardner, convicted of setting the fires which destroyed All Saints' Episcopal church and damaged Pleasant Street church in January, 1932, be commuted to make the convict eligible for immediate parole, met with sharp and immediate opposition last night.

Last night the Pleasant Street Baptist church, of Worcester, following its regular weekly prayer meeting, adopted a sharply worded resolution of protest, copies of which will be sent to the governor and to Councilor Winfield A. Schuster. Gardner has not yet had "sufficient time for adequate punishment," the resolve said.



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NEWS

Gardner, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## COUNCIL OUSTS PAYSON SMITH AS COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

### Democratic Members Confirm Curley's Nomination of James G. Reardon of Adams, 6 to 3; Kirk and Long Hold Jobs

BOSTON, Dec. 19—James G. Reardon, 36, superintendent of schools in Adams and boasting that he is "one thousand per cent for the teachers' oath bill," is the new state commissioner of education. He was confirmed by the council yesterday, 6 to 3, after Governor Curley had made the gesture of submitting the name of Dr. Payson Smith who has held the position since 1916. Lieutenant Governor Hurley had the distinction of voting for the confirmation of both men.

The council did not meet until after the governor, lieutenant governor and the five Democratic councillors had a conference that lasted an hour and twenty minutes.

The position carried a salary of \$9000 annually and the appointment is for five years. Mr. Reardon was expected to be in Boston today and take the oath of office. He is a graduate of Boston college.

The rejection of Dr. Smith was in spite of state-wide protests from educators and private citizens as well as organizations outside the educational interests of the state. One of the individual protestants at the rejection of Dr. Smith was Senator Theodore R. Plunkett of Adams, who has supported many of the governor's proposals. His home is in the town where the new state commissioner has been superintendent.

Under suspension of rules the council confirmed Gov. Curley's nomination of Lt.-Col. Paul G. Kirk of Newton to a new term as state commissioner of public safety and of Henry F. Long of Topsfield to continue in office as state commissioner of corporations and taxation.

The council again voted to defer action on the Governor's pending nomination of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville to succeed Edgar L. Gillett of Canton as state commissioner of agriculture.

No action was taken by the Governor on the expired tenures of Raymond J. Kenney of Belmont, state director of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman of Westwood, state commissioner of correction; Brig. Gen. Richard K. Hale, associate commissioner of public works, and Maj. George J. Cronin of Boston, state purchasing agent.

Numerous other nominations were submitted.

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PATRIOT

Hyannis, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

#### GOV. CURLEY CHAFES AT FEDERAL DELAY

Wants Money for Cape N. G. Camp  
Right Off--Threatens to Give  
Government Blast

Gov. Curley, according to a recent despatch was real peeved because the Federal government had not come through with the money promised for building the National Guard camp on the Cape.

He was quoted as saying that the money had been promised and if it was not received the Federal people would hear a blast from him.

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INDEPENDENT

Harwich, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

Hotel, Hyannis.

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Governor Curley had a personal interview with President Roosevelt at Hyde Park, N. Y., seeking to hasten action in building the new National Guard Camp at Sandwich. This would afford much work for many idle men this coming winter.

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Times

Hartford, Ct.

DEC 19 1935

## 254 in Bay State Will Get Pardons

Boston—(AP)—Plans for Christmas and New Year paroles or pardons for 254 inmates of prisons, reformatories and the state farm were announced by Governor Curley. Two life term prisoners and 20 women, reformatory inmates, were included in the list.

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PATRIOT

Hyannis, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

ert L. Baxter, aged two yrs.

A public meeting of the James M. Curley Democratic club of Falmouth was held this evening with John H. Backus of the secretarial force of the governor as the speaker.

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Boston Mass.

Transcript  
Holyoke, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# REARDON GETS STATE EDUCATION POST APPOINTED AFTER CURLEY'S COUNCIL REJECTS SMITH

**Naming of Adams Superintendent of Schools  
Confirmed as Are the Reappointments of  
Tax Commissioner Long and Commission-  
er of Public Safety Kirk.**

BOSTON, Dec. 18—James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools in Adams, is the new commissioner of education in Massachusetts. His nomination, presented by Gov. James Curley this afternoon, was confirmed by the Governor's Council, 6-3. The three Republican members of the council voted against him, the six Democratic members for him.

Gov. Curley first submitted the name of Payson Smith to the council, which voted against him, 5 to 4. Smith getting the three Republican votes and that of Lieut. Gov. Hurley.

All nominations submitted by Gov. Curley, including those of Henry S. Long, commissioner of taxation, and Paul B. Kirk, commissioner of public safety, were approved by the council.

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—Ranks of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation were split today on the choice of a candidate for State Education Commissioner.

A majority of the board of directors last night endorsed James G. Reardon, Adams superintendent of schools, for the post.

The minority seeks reappointment of Commissioner Payson Smith.

Supporters of Reardon charged pressure had been brought by school superintendents in an effort to force endorsement of Smith. The Superintendents' Association already has announced support of the present commissioner.

The minority countered with charges that the movement to endorse Reardon, a Boston College graduate and former superintendent at East Bridgewater, was dictated by Governor Curley.

The vote supporting Reardon was 12 to 8. John L. Davoren, president

*Continued*



*concluded*  
of the Teachers' Civic League of Massachusetts, led the fight for Reardon, while opposition was headed by Mrs. Grace I. Woodbury of Melrose, Federation president. The Federation membership numbers 21,000.

BOSTON, Dec. 18—Robert J. Watt, secretary treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, discussing the quoted statement of James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools of Adams, and a candidate for the position of state commissioner of education, that he is in favor of the teachers' oath bill, said today: "If Mr. Reardon is quoted correctly as saying that he is one thousand per cent for the teachers' oath, that statement alone should disqualify him as commissioner of education of Massachusetts. Massachusetts was the birthplace of American liberty and it should not be made its graveyard.

"People who believe in the teachers' oath are believers in the Communistic method of teaching which is regimenting of school children by the regimentation of their school teachers. If a man who believes in this form of teaching is appointed, the walls of Faneuil Hall will begin to tumble on end."

#### Press Clipping Service

2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

#### Transcript

Holyoke, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

Date

## Scan Bank Records In Effort To Get Evidence On Dolan

BOSTON, Dec. 18— City of Boston investigators today scanned record of two closed banks in an effort to obtain evidence against Former City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan and six others accused of irregularities involving \$250,000 in bond transactions.

The records are from the Exchange Trust Company and the Federal National Bank. A request for information has been made at the bond department of a third bank.

Meanwhile, all was quiet on the Curley-Mansfield front. Neither Governor Surley, who as Mayor appointed Dolan, nor Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield, instigator of the suit, commented further.

Special Corporation Counsel George R. Farnum announced he would ask the State Supreme Court to expedite a hearing before a master on the bill of equity filed by the city Saturday, in an effort to recover allegedly illegal profits said to have been made by Dolan and his associates while Dolan was treasurer.

#### Press Clipping Service

2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

#### Transcript

Holyoke, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Temporary Quarters for Registry Branch Secured

They Will Be in Lincoln Building — Inspector  
Foran to Be in Charge.

Temporary quarters for the local motor vehicles branch office obtained for this city by Mayor-elect William P. Yoerg, will be located at 104 Suffolk street in the Lincoln building and will open at 9 Friday morning. Immediate opening of the office will prove a boon to local motorists at this time, who will be saved the trouble of going to Springfield or Northampton, as in former years, to obtain their registration plates for the new year.

Mayor-elect Yoerg and Secretary Rudolph J. Laporte of the Tri-County Automobile club returned last night from Boston, where final arrangements for opening the local branch office were concluded with Registrar of Motor Vehicles Frank A. Goodwin.

State Highway Inspector Harry Foran will be in charge of the temporary office.

The rush for 1936 plates is already on. Approximately 9,500 cars were registered in this city during the year, but not all of the owners apply for plates immediately, many putting their machines up until the spring. Those who do put their cars on the road January 1 have to go out of town for their plates or else pay a 50-cent service charge to individuals who do the work for insurance companies and others.

Provision for a permanent office in this city will be made next year in the state budget, Gov. Curley has assured Mr. Yoerg, and it will be necessary to introduce a bill in the

Legislature creating the branch office here.

Mayor-elect Yoerg in his visit to Boston yesterday also conferred with William F. Callahan, chairman of the state department of public works, Charles R. Gilley, chief clerk, Attorney General Dever and Secretary of State Frederic W. Cook.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

GAZETTE  
Haverhill, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

# REARDON MADE COMMISSIONER IN PLACE OF SMITH

*36-Year-Old Boston College Graduate  
Succeeds Veteran Educator—  
Long and Kirk Returned*

BOSTON (P)—A 36-year-old Boston college graduate, James G. Reardon, succeeded Dr. Payson Smith as state commissioner of education today.

Reardon was nominated and confirmed 6-3 by the executive council yesterday after the council had rejected Gov. James M. Curley's renomination of Dr. Smith, 5-4. He will receive \$9000 per year.

On the vote for Dr. Smith's renomination Lt. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley joined the Republican members in voting to retain the veteran commissioner of 20 years standing. However, when Curley then submitted Reardon's name, Hurley voted for his confirmation.

Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, has called himself a "100 percent supporter" of the teacher's oath law. Dr. Smith originally opposed it.

The council reappointed Henry F. Long as state commissioner of taxation and corporations and Paul G. Kirk as commissioner of public safety. Action was deferred on the appointment of Howard H. Murphy, of Osterville, as commissioner of agriculture.

Curley said he was undecided about reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney as director of the division of fisheries and game, Arthur T. Lyman as commissioner of correction and Maj. George J. Cronin as state purchasing agent.

The terms of Kenney and Lyman expired Dec. 1 and Cronin's term ended Dec. 13.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

TRIBUNE  
Lawrence, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## OATH GIVEN NEW EDUCATION HEAD

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (P)—James G. Reardon, 36, superintendent of schools in Adams, was sworn in today by Governor James M. Curley as Massachusetts' Commissioner of Education.

The young educator, whose nomination was confirmed yesterday by the executive council after that body declined to approve the reappointment of Dr. Payson Smith, took the oath of office in the executive chambers in the presence of relatives and friends.

In brief remarks, after he administered the oath, Governor Curley told the new commissioner he was certain Reardon was well qualified to fill the office.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

EAGLE  
Lawrence, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## MANY PRISONERS TO GET PARDONS

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Gov. James M. Curley announced that 200 prisoners serving sentences for drunkenness at the state farm would be released on parole during a five-day period ending Christmas day.

On the other hand, Richard Olney, chairman of the board of paroles, set the figure at "a little more than 100," "many of whom," he added, "would have been freed at that time anyway."

The gates of the women's reformatory at Sherborn would be opened for 20 women there, Gov. Curley said, and the state board of paroles, he added, has authorized the release of 15 serving sentences at Concord by Christmas and 14 more by Jan. 31, he added.

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Action on the governor's commutation recommendations was deferred by the council until a special session next Monday.

One of the lifers is Samuel Powers of Westfield, imprisoned since 1914 for the murder of his wife. Curley asked the council to commute his sentence to 20 years, making him eligible for parole.

The other is Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in 1920 for murdering Mary B. Lavole. Commutation of the sentence to 20 years was asked for Birusz to make him eligible for parole with the understanding he be deported to Poland, his native country.

The three other prisoners for whom commutation was asked included Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in 1932 to 10 to 12 years for burning a building. The governor requested a reduction to four to twelve years.



TRIBUNE  
Lawrence, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## DR. PAYSON SMITH LOSES HIS EDUCATIONAL POST

Is Deposed By Gov. Curley After 20 Years as  
Commissioner of Education in Mass.—  
James E. Reardon Succeeds Him

BOSTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—In five minutes today, Dr. Payson Smith was ousted as state commissioner of education after almost two decades of service, and a dark horse among those mentioned to succeed him was appointed and confirmed.

After months of continuous agitation from teachers to reappoint Dr. Smith, who is 63, Governor James M. Curley submitted his name to the executive council, which rejected the nomination, 5 to 4.

The governor immediately offered the name of James G. Reardon, 36-year-old superintendent of schools in Adams, and the council just as quickly confirmed him as commissioner. The vote was 6 to 3, strictly on party lines.

Among numerous candidates mentioned as possibly successors to Dr. Smith, Reardon has received no special notice or support until last night, when a majority of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation endorsed him. A minority favored Dr. Smith's retention.

Reardon styled himself a "100 per cent supporter" of the controversial state teachers' oath act, while Dr. Smith originally opposed it. How much weight was attached by the councillors to these attitudes of the respective candidates, however, was not immediately apparent.

Reardon's term of office is five years and his salary \$9,000.

While rejecting Dr. Smith's reappointment, the council confirmed reappointment of two other state officials appointed before Governor Curley was elected.

One was Henry F. Long, state commissioner of taxation and corporations, in public service for many years. He was reappointed for a term of three years, at a salary of \$7,500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31-year-old commissioner of public

safety, appointed by Governor Curley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely. He will serve five years at \$6,000 annually.

Governor Curley, explaining the council's vote on the Smith reappointment, said:

"I conferred with the Democratic members of the council concerning the Smith appointment before the council session, and with the exception of the lieutenant governor, they were all opposed to Mr. Smith."

Reardon, a Boston College graduate in 1923 and an American Legionnaire, studied also at Harvard and Boston universities.

He has been superintendent at Adams for a year, going there after serving in the same capacity at East Bridgewater for eight years. He also had taught at East Bridgewater high school, and was principal for a year.

The council today deferred again action on the governor's appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.

TRIBUNE  
Lawrence, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

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Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

EAGLE

Lawrence, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

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TRIBUNE

Lawrence, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

arraigned. Deaths of eight other patients were to be investigated.

## CITIES AND TOWNS WARNED BY BATES

SALEM, Dec. 17—If cities and towns do not work together, listen to words of advice, keep their eyes open and avoid such political expenditures as Gov. Curley's \$13,000,000 bond issue, they will be in a worse mess than they are now, declared Mayor George J. Bates at the annual meeting of the Essex County Association of Assessors at the Hotel Hawthorne today.

He said the municipalities would have been better off if the money had been allotted to them by direct grant for relief purposes. He condemned constant borrowing for current expenditures.

Henry F. Long, tax commissioner, painted a bleak future for relief from the tax burden. The problems, he said, grew increasingly difficult, and while the cities and towns might ultimately increase revenues the greater capacity to pay would be offset by the greater capacity to absorb.

The following were unanimously chosen officers of the association during the coming year: President, Clarence B. Humphreys of Swampscott; vice-president, Frank A. Rogers of Gloucester; secretary, David H. Roach of Lynn; treasurer, Herbert Ballard of Marblehead; executive board, John H. Dennis of Rockport, Caleb M. Cogswell of Essex, Harry L. Cole of Boxford, Fred L. Bennett of Haverhill, John J. Murphy of Lawrence, and Leverett Davis of Middleton. Alfred L. Poor of Lynn is the retiring president.



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TELEGRAM  
Lawrence, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## As We See It

### THE NEW TERROR

Now watch the peanut dodgers. Every politician, being afraid of his own political shadow, will view the ominous cloud of the Townsend plan now gradually darkening the prospects of some of those who have stood by the guns of antique party affiliation and shut their eyes to the inevitable changes since we have, as a nation, arrived at the conclusion that the world not only owes us a living, but the world must collect it for us.

There was an election in Michigan on Tuesday. Now watch the throng of political office seekers jump upon the Townsend band wagon. It has been proven popular. The ayowed Townsendite candidate swamped all his opponents by a two to one margin. It demonstrates that even the New Deal "give everything away" policy is not so popular as the Townsend plan. People evidently can see that there will be a time when there will be nothing to give away and the Roosevelt brain trust will be stumped.

### THE NEXT CONGRESS

There is some industrious scratching of heads in Washington right now. It must be remembered that when Huey Long — now, to some, conveniently dead — was waging his battle for the "share the wealth" doctrine, it proved its popularity and the Louisiana senator was receiving invitations to visit every section of the country to explain it. That threw a scare into the powers at Washington so completely that several acres of scalp were scratched trying to discover a counter-irritant.

The administration "brain trust" copied it to perfection in the "social security scheme" and sought to pass that along to the country as the Long cure-all. The trouble with the social security scheme is that

It offers no security to anyone — except the thousands of officials at Washington who will take care of the funds as they come in, and the subsequent congresses that will find ways of chiseling the funds out of the "security box" for other purposes. When the money for the so-called social security scheme begins to pile up in Washington, the eyes of the politicians will stick out like those of a frog and they will start right in devising ways and means of getting their hands upon it. That has been the experience of the past.

The election in Michigan has been an awakener to the party politicians that a thunder storm is approaching and no one can tell who the lightning will hit. So, the lightning arresters will now be adjusted.

The eleventh hour for Christmas shopping is rapidly approaching. Have you made all those purchases yet? Just get busy and hustle them along. You will be doubly pleased when the last present is purchased and you know your friends will be pleased.

### WHY SWAP HORSES?

When you have a good horse, it is a mighty poor policy to trade it for one of doubtful value. That has been the policy in swapping horses ever since trading was invented. That appears to be the policy Governor Curley should adopt in the selection of the state Commissioner of Education. Apparently the Governor does not desire to retain Payson Smith, who has proven his ability and appears to be the right man in the right place. In the construction of his political machine, the Governor appears not to find Mr. Smith one of the constructive elements. Despite the fact that the present commissioner is perfectly satisfactory and there is not a single thing against him, the Governor intends to oust him.

Governor Curley is not making friends or political headway in his construction of an invincible political machine. He does not appear to possess the political acumen of Huey Long, though there are those who believe the former Louisiana king fish is the model. Above all else, the Governor should not monkey with education at this perilous time. The state knows Mr. Smith is safe. Let us hesitate before swapping horses in the middle of the river of doubt.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

JOURNAL  
Lewiston, Me.

DEC 19 1935

Deal.

WE BELIEVE THAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS of free pardons to criminals is no prerogative of Governor Curley, of Massachusetts.

"Jim's heart is big," we are told. "He's a kind-hearted guy," says another. That's fine. Let him give his own stuff, if he please but beware of giving the public's safety away for Santa Claus' sake.

Some years ago some Governor in a State where the Governor has full power of pardon, started giving paroles and pardons for Christmas. Jim Ferguson, down in Texas carried the free pardoning so far that he almost emptied the prisons, and thereby brought down on Texas that reign of bad-men and "pretty boys" etc that made its name unsavory as a State, for a long time.

If you read the True Detective and the Real Detective and the Startling and all of the other true detective magazines, you will have found out that most of these Public Enemies have been pardoned or paroled by some fool-Governor at some time or other. In Maine it still requires "by and with the consent of the Governor's Executive Council" which is an excellent reason for having a Council, among other reasons.

We would dare say that pardoning of criminals has cost the American public fifty billions of dollars in the past 20 years. This delay over the Hauptmann case is perhaps responsible for this Milne kidnapping.

Curley proposes to let loose over 200 prisoners, two of whom have been lifers, for murder. If after investigation and for sufficient reasons a lifer-murderer should be pardoned, it should be only after public hearing. Mr. Curley may have his own judgment about it, and he should not generally be criticised. But this Christmas present sentimentality is bad. Turning loose prisoners as an expression of goodwill is not goodwill to a harassed public surrounded by thugs and hi-jackers.



Press Clipping Service  
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TELEGRAM  
Lawrence, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

# At 35 Becomes Education Chief

## James Gerrard Reardon Takes Oath of Office As Commissioner of Educa- tion For the State

By ALLEN MARTIN

BOSTON, Dec. 19. (UP)—James Gerrard (Roddy) Reardon, 35-year-old small-town school superintendent, today took the oath as state education commissioner—one of the youngest men in the United States to hold such an office.

The oath was administered by Gov. James M. Curley, whose appointment of Reardon yesterday brought stinging rebukes from Republican and Democratic newspapers alike. Both Curley and Reardon are Democrats.

Press attacks were directed not at Reardon personally, but at the manner in which his appointment was put through the executive council. Curley first announced he would reappoint Commissioner Payson Smith, but added that if the council, which is Curley-controlled, should reject Smith, he would appoint Reardon.

By a vote of 5 to 4 the council rejected Smith, and then, by a vote of 6 to 3, confirmed Reardon.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

JOURNAL  
Lewiston, Me.  
DEC 19 1935

## MASS. TOWNSENDITES WILL OPPOSE CURLEY

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—(P)—The Boston Traveler, in a copyrighted story, says Charles M. Hawks, Massachusetts' manager of the Townsend pension plan club, predicted Governor James M. Curley would not be nominated for the U. S. Senate.

"We have 30,000 registered Townsend club members in Massachusetts," the Traveler quotes him as saying, "and we have ten times that many signers of pledges. That makes 300,000 votes."

Referring to Curley's avowed plan of running for the Senate, the paper quotes Hawks as saying: "Curley won't get by the primaries. Every time he goes on the air and talks for Roosevelt's pauper-pension plan, he licks himself. A year ago we had 45 clubs in Massachusetts and now we have 154 clubs."

"I believe Mr. Roosevelt's new deal will be repudiated by a tremendous degree in this State."

The average farm family lives longer and accumulates more wealth than the average city family.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

SUN  
Lewiston Me.  
DEC 19 1935

## CURLEY TO RELEASE SCORES OF PRISONERS

### Two Lifers Among Those to Be Liberated by Christmas

### Parole 200 Serving Sentences for Drunkenness; Release 20 Women from Sherborn

Boston, Dec. 18.—(P)—Scores of inmates in Massachusetts penal institutions, including two serving life sentences for murder, were gladdened tonight by news of their pending release by Christmas.

Governor Curley announced that 200 prisoners serving sentences for drunkenness at the State farm would be released on parole during a five-day period ending Christmas day.

On the other hand, Richard Olney, Chairman of the Board of Paroles, set the figure at "a little more than 100," "many of whom," he added, "would have been freed at that time anyway."

The gates of the Women's Reformatory at Sherborn would be opened for 20 women then, Governor Curley said, and the State Board of Paroles, he added, has authorized the release of 15 serving sentences at Concord by Christmas and 14 more by Jan. 31, he added.

Announcement of the Christmas

"gift" paroles was made prior to the meeting of the Council at which the Governor recommended clemency for five prisoners through commutation of their sentences to make them eligible for parole.

Action on the Governor's commutation recommendations was deferred by the Council until a special session next Monday.

One of the lifers is Samuel Powers of Westfield, imprisoned since 1914 for the murder of his wife. Curley asked the Council to commute his sentence to 20 years, making him eligible for parole.

The other is Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in 1920 for murdering Mary B. Lavole. Commutation of the sentence to 20 years was asked for Birusz to make him eligible for parole with the understanding he be deported to Poland, his native country.

The three other prisoners for whom commutation was asked included Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in 1932 to 10 to 12 years for burning a building. The Governor requested a reduction to four to 12 years.



ENTERPRISE  
Leominster, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Dr. Payson Smith's Rejection And Reardon's Confirmation Termed 'Political Maneuvers'

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—Bitter resentment over Gov. Curley's appointment of James A. Reardon as State Commissioner of Education to succeed Dr. Payson Smith, and the subsequent so-called "political maneuvers" of his Council, in immediately confirming the appointment under rules suspension, was evidenced yesterday on Capitol Hill. Councilor Winfield A. Schuster and Rep. Philip G. Bowker bitterly attacked the action of the Governor and his Executive Council and termed the proceedings as a "Pre-arranged plan of the Governor to save his face."

Dr. Smith, who had been the Commissioner of Education for 19 years, had the moral and actual support of the leading educational men of the state and also from other parts of the country. He was reappointed by the Governor, it was declared, as a "mere gesture," with a probable cut-and-dried plan to oust him once the appointment was submitted to the Executive Council. It did not take the Council long to do it after going into session, and informed sources allowed that the Governor did little to have the appointment confirmed, although he submitted Dr. Smith's appointment in spite of the fact that he had received information at a caucus of the Democratic Council that they would reject the nomination. They had been in caucus for an hour and a half before going into the regular session when they voted against Dr. Smith's confirmation, and then Gov. Curley announced to the press that he would send in the nomination of Mr. Reardon of Adams. After the appointment of Dr. Smith was killed, the Council voted, five to three, to suspend the rules with Lieut-Gov. Hurley absent from the room, while ordinarily the appointment would go over for one week before being confirmed. By so doing the appointment was "rushed through."

Gov. Curley said before the Council session: "I conferred with the Democratic members of the Council concerning the Smith appointment before the Council session, and with the exception of the Lieut-Governor, they were all opposed to him."

Councilman Schuster voiced his disapproval of the matter in no un-

certain language, his statement being:

"As I see it, the whole thing was cut and dried. The vote of the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers favoring Reardon seems to have been engineered by the Governor. The sending of Smith's name was nothing more than a gesture of the Governor to save his face. Analysis shows that the submission of the name meant nothing."

"The despicable methods of Gov. Curley are now only too apparent," said Bowker. "His back-door tactics in the case of Dr. Smith should not be overlooked. First, through his henchmen he maneuvered a vote through the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers to support Reardon for the position."

"Yesterday morning he held a caucus of the Democratic members of the Council behind closed doors. The Council then met and the Governor submitted Dr. Smith's name for re-appointment. A vote of 5 to 4 rejected Smith. The Governor, according to a pre-arranged plan, then put in Reardon's name and he was confirmed, 6 to 3."

"What a bluff on the part of the Governor! Does he think for one minute the public cannot see through this? By trying to save his own face and put his Councilors on the spot the Governor has stooped to tactics of the lowest sort and has only shown himself up."

Robert J. Watt, secretary of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor, was another who attacked the appointment and confirmation of Reardon and did so by saying:

"If Mr. Reardon is quoted correctly in saying that he is 1000 percent behind the teachers' oath law," said Watt, "that statement alone should disqualify him as commissioner of education."

"Massachusetts was the birthplace of American liberty and should not be made its graveyard. People who believe in the teachers' oath are believers in the communistic method of teaching, which is regimenting of school children by regimentation of their teachers."

"If a man who believes in this form of teaching is appointed, the walls of Faneuil Hall will begin to tumble in."

ENTERPRISE  
Leominster, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

National Bank. Inspector Leslie N. Harvey is investigating.

## Hearing On Firebug Parole Requested

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—A public hearing Monday on a recommendation for parole for an incendiary convicted of setting church fires was requested by Gov. Curley today after one church and an executive councilor had voiced opposition. Frank Brooks of Watertown, Republican member of the executive council, today joined with the Pleasant Street Baptist Church of Worcester in opposing commutation and parole for Henry A. Gardner, 32, of Worcester.

Brooks said he could see no reason for commutation. Gardner was convicted in 1932 of setting fires that destroyed All Saints Episcopal Church and damaged the Pleasant Street church.

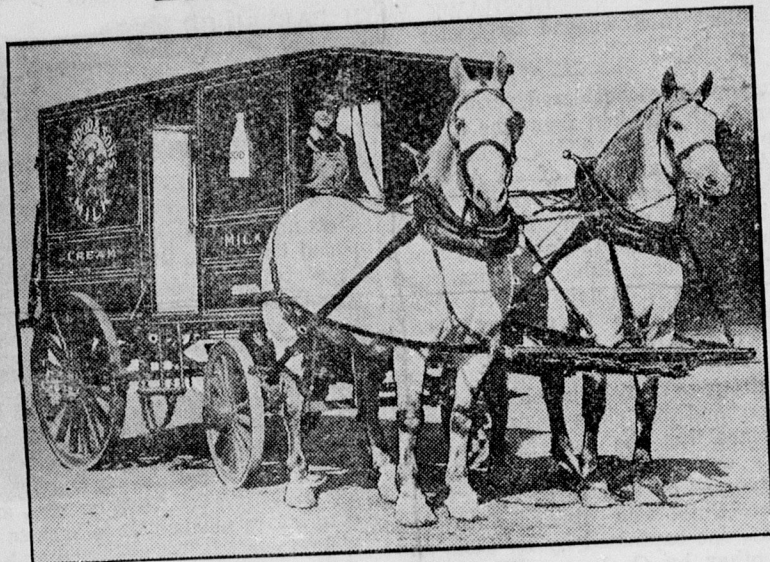


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2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

TIMES-MINUTE-MAN  
Lexington, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Blue Ribbon Winners



Dizzy and Shorty, gray geldings from the Brookline stables of H. P. Hood & Sons, took first honors as the best pair of draft horses in the Horse Show of the 110th Cavalry, held in Commonwealth Armory, Boston, Thursday, Dec. 5th, before a brilliant audience, which included Gov. Curley and Gov. Brann of Maine.

Press Clipping Service  
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BOSTON MASS.

COURIER-CITIZEN  
Lowell, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## SCORES OF CONVICTS OUT FOR CHRISTMAS

Many on Parole for Five Days  
—Two Lifers' Sentences to  
Be Commuted.

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Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

SUN  
Lowell, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

# Pavson Smith May Hand Curley Broadside Ousted School Head's Successor Is Inducted

## J. G. REARDON YOUNGEST MAN TO HOLD POST

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (INS)—James G. Reardon, youngest man ever appointed to the position of state commissioner of education, takes the oath of office today, less than 24 hours after his appointment.

Reardon, 35, was confirmed by the governor's executive council yesterday after it rejected the appointment of Dr. Pavson Smith, commissioner since 1916.

Dr. Smith made no statement but friends were said to be preparing a criticism of Governor James M. Curley and the council.

Reardon, superintendent of Adams schools since September, said he had "some very definite ideas about the new duties," but refused to go into further detail.

LEADER  
Lowell, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## REARDON SWORN IN AS STATE'S EDUCATION HEAD

### Small Town School Superintendent Succeeds Payson Smith.

By ALLEN MARTIN.

United Press Staff Correspondent.

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (U.P.)—James Gerrard (Roddy) Reardon, 35-year-old small-town school superintendent, today took the oath as state education commissioner—one of the youngest men in the United States to hold such an office.

The oath was administered by Governor James M. Curley, whose appointment of Reardon yesterday brought stinging rebukes from Republican and Democratic newspapers alike. Both Curley and Reardon are Democrats.

Press attacks were directed not at Reardon personally but at the manner in which his appointment was put through the Executive

Council. Curley first announced he would reappoint Commissioner Pavson Smith, but added that if the Council, which is Curley-controlled, should reject Smith, he would appoint Reardon.

By a vote of 5 to 4 the Council rejected Smith, and then, by a vote of 6 to 3, confirmed Reardon. Smith was serving his 20th year as commissioner.

Representative editorial comment: Boston Post (Independent-Democratic)—".... Why was it necessary to go through all this hypocritical hocus pocus to land him (Reardon) in office? .... The whole business reeks with political chicanery of a sort unusual in Massachusetts. Our citizens are getting a liberal education into the wiles of politics these days."

Boston Herald (Republican)—".... Disgraceful as the removal itself was, the methods employed were just as bad. .... The governor is utterly childish if he has the notion that this self-serving action will deceive anybody, even the most gullible. .... The whole episode marks a new low in the administration of the affairs of this commonwealth."

Meanwhile, the ousted Smith hinted he might issue a statement later.

Reardon's promotion from a \$3600-a-year job as superintendent of schools in the Berkshire county town of Adams to the \$9000-a-year

*continued*

missionership, which carries a  
-year term, comes only 12 years  
er his graduation from Boston  
lege.

He was born July 22, 1900, at  
edway, where his parents, William  
d Mary Reardon, 79 and 78 years  
d, respectively, still live. The first  
uple to be married at St. Joseph's  
urch, Medway, they will celebrate  
their golden wedding anniversary  
ext Sept. 16.

After attending the public schools,  
young Reardon entered Boston col-  
ege. He used to get up at 5 a. m.  
daily so he could milk the cows  
before going to classes.

During the world war he was a  
member of the U. S. army.

Graduating from Boston college  
in 1923, he studied at Boston and  
Harvard universities before taking  
his master's degree. Thereafter he  
served successively as assistant  
principal and principal of East  
Bridgewater high school and super-  
intendent of schools in that town.  
While teaching there he coached the  
football team.

It was while in East Bridgewater  
that he married the former Anita  
Thorndike, daughter of the late  
Judge H. C. Thorndike of Brockton.

Last June Reardon became school  
superintendent at Adams.

A football player while at Boston  
college, Reardon is a husky, full-  
faced six-footer. But despite his  
physique he is better at indoor than  
outdoor sports, playing good games  
of dominoes and checkers but me-  
diocre golf.

At Adams he has lived in a cream-  
colored eight-room house in B street  
with his wife and their four chil-  
dren, Cynthia, aged 6, James jr.,  
aged 5, Susan, aged 3, and Rose-  
mary, aged 1. The children's pet is  
a 150-pound Great Dane named  
"Donny."

**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

**COURIER-CITIZEN**  
Lowell, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## PAYSON SMITH VOTED OUT BY STATE COUNCIL

**Name of Commissioner of Edu-  
cation, Sent in by Curley, Re-  
jected—Adams Superintend-  
ent Later Chosen to Post.**

**REARDON DARK  
HORSE IN RACE**

**Long, Head of Taxation De-  
partment, and Kirk, Safety  
Executive, Reappointed and  
Confirmed—Action on How-  
ard Murphy Again Deferred.**

BOSTON, Dec. 18 (P)—In five  
minutes today, Dr. Payson Smith  
was ousted as state commissioner  
of education after almost two dec-  
ades of service, and a dark horse  
among those mentioned to succeed  
him was appointed and confirmed.  
**Smith Rejected, 5 to 4.**

After months of continuous agi-  
tation from teachers to reappoint  
Dr. Smith, who is 63 years old, Gov-  
ernor James M. Curley submitted  
his name to the Executive Council,  
which rejected the nomination, 5 to  
4.

The governor immediately offered  
the name of James G. Reardon, 36-  
year-old superintendent of schools  
in Adams, and the Council just as  
quickly confirmed him as commis-  
sioner. The vote was 6 to 3, strictly  
on party lines.

Among numerous candidates  
mentioned as possibly successors to  
Dr. Smith, Reardon has received  
no special notice or support until  
last night, when a majority of di-  
rectors of the Massachusetts Teach-  
ers' Federation endorsed him. A  
minority favored Dr. Smith's reten-  
tion.

**Reardon Backs Oath.**

Reardon styled himself a "100  
per cent supporter" of the contro-  
versial State Teachers' Oath act,  
while Dr. Smith originally opposed  
it. How much weight was at-  
tached by the councillors to these  
attitudes of the respective candi-  
dates, however, was not immedi-  
ately apparent.

Reardon's term of office is five  
years and his salary \$9000.

While rejecting Dr. Smith's re-  
appointment, the Council confirmed  
reappointment of two other state  
officials appointed before Governor  
Curley was elected.

**Kirk, Long Confirmed.**

One was Henry F. Long, state  
commissioner of taxation and cor-  
porations, in public service for many  
years. He was reappointed for a  
term of three years, at a salary of  
\$7500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31-  
year-old commissioner of public  
safety, appointed by Governor Cur-  
ley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely.  
He will serve five years at \$6000  
annually.

Governor Curley, explaining the

Council's vote on the Smith reap-  
pointment, said:

"I conferred with the Democrat-  
ic members of the Council concern-  
ing the Smith appointment before  
the Council session, and with the  
exception of the lieutenant gover-  
nor, they were all opposed to Mr.  
Smith."

**Reardon a Legionnaire.**

Reardon, a Boston college gradu-  
ate in 1923 and an American Le-  
gionnaire, studied also at Harvard  
and Boston universities.

He had been superintendent at  
Adams for a year, going there af-  
ter serving in the same capacity at  
East Bridgewater for eight years.  
He also had taught at East Bridge-  
water high school, and was princi-  
pal for a year.

The Council today deferred again  
action on the governor's appoint-  
ment of Howard H. Murphy of Os-  
terville as commissioner of agricul-  
ture.



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LEADER  
Lowell, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## BYSTANDING BY Charles E. Gallagher

### Beware the "Dips" Attacking Cluin A Real Democrat Was It Necessary?

When you go downtown to clean up the tail-ends of your Christmas shopping, Sir and Madam, please be certain that your purse, pocket-book or wallet is safely concealed on your person or firmly held in your hand. That is the advice of both the local police and local merchants. Pickpockets (usually the imported species) are invariably abroad in the land at this season of the year and crowded stores offer them the best opportunities to ply their trade with least danger of apprehension.

If you can read between the lines of some of our local newspapers, you are probably aware by this time that a definite movement (and a very despicable, underhanded movement) is under way to make Edmund M. Cluin, chairman of the Lowell Finance commission, persona non grata with Governor Curley, who appointed him to the position.

Because Mr. Cluin is being given "the business" with what passes for subtlety in certain circles, many of his closest friends and staunchest admirers do not appreciate the vigor which his enemies are employing to discredit him.

Because Mr. Cluin acted courageously and honestly and for the best interests of the taxpayers of Lowell in the recent investigation of Street department payrolls, he has been accused in some circles of having Republican leanings, although he is a registered Democrat. Cartoons and more recently insidious photographs have been employed in certain sections of the local press,

very obviously if somewhat crudely, in an effort to pin a Republican tag on Mr. Cluin. It was even rumored today that one violent enemy of Mr. Cluin had gone so far as to send copies of the most recent photographic attack to the governor's office.

As a Democratic paper, the LEADER fought for Mr. Cluin's appointment and convinced Governor Curley that he was the proper man for the position. Nothing that has happened in the last few months has served to change the LEADER'S opinion in this respect. He is a Democrat of the highest type, true to the courageous ideals of that party. More important, he has been faithful to his oath of office. It is this very fidelity which has won for him the hatred of repudiated elements of his own party.

Governor Curley has been in public life long enough and has had enough experience with human nature not to be hoodwinked by the cheap efforts to discredit Mr. Cluin. We have had too little courage at City Hall in the past few years. Mr. Cluin's advent into the building came like a refreshing breeze on a stifling day. If you admire "guts" in a public servant, you will write to Governor Curley at once and give him the true picture of what has happened in Lowell in the last few months. Meanwhile His Excellency is to be congratulated in keeping his hands off a situation that the Finance commission is well qualified to handle alone.

That is gratifying news that came out of Boston today to the effect that a WPA payroll of some \$13,000 will be paid to approximately 600 Lowell residents tomorrow, just in time for the Christmas holiday season. Some of the WPA employees have been without pay for four or five weeks, thanks to the usual ineffectiveness which surrounds governmental projects. The local welfare office has been stormed by men unable to get the money which they justly earned. It is to be hoped that

there will be no further delays or confusion.

The payment of the final dividend in the savings department of the Lowell Trust Co. serves to make one wonder if there was any real necessity for closing the bank in the first place. Few closed banks have been able to pay 100 cents on the dollar in any of their departments in the short time in which the Trust Co. has done it under the guidance of Liquidating Agent Joseph F. Gargan. The bank's assets must have been in fairly good condition. Had the banking laws which now prevail been in effect when the Trust Co. closed, it is doubtful if there would have been any surrender to the hysteria of the moment.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

SUN  
Lowell, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## LEGISLATURE TO FACE 250 BILLS

BOSTON, Dec 19 (INS)—Efforts to boost the state income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial teachers oath law loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the gilded dome.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place 200,000 new contributors to state tax totals, through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

The jobs of half the representatives and senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence Governor James M. Curley announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems facing the legislature—the "second annual session of the 149th general court of the commonwealth of Massachusetts"—some of which may be written into the statutes, and others snowed under in the battle of ballots either in house or senate:

Reduce state income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2000 to \$1400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2500, to \$1900.

Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the recent supreme court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the executive council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Governor Curley.

Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Langone, Jr., filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the state from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3½ to 5 per cent on horses and from 3½ to 10 per cent on the whippets.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week now in effect in state institutions to county institutions.

Continued



*Concluded*

Place the state police constabulary under civil service.

Raze the old state's prison at Charlestown either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for state welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and clarify statutes prohibiting illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor.

Prevent employment by the state of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the house, 60 less than last year on this date, and 48 in the senate, the deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., January 11th.

**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

**ITEM**

Lynn, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## HENNESSEY OPPOSES SMITH REAPPOINTMENT

William G. Hennessey of Lynn joined with four other members of the governor's executive council Wednesday afternoon, in rejecting the appointment of Dr. Payson Smith as State commissioner of education and in approving the appointment of James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, as Smith's successor.

When the name of Dr. Smith was submitted for confirmation, Councilor Hennessey and four other Democrats, Daniel H. Coakley, James J. Brennan, Philip J. Russell, and Morton H. Burdick, voted against confirmation. Lieutenant-Governor Hurley and the Republican councilors, Frank A. Brooks, Winfield A. Schuster and Joseph B. Grossman, favored confirmation.

After Governor James M. Curley had immediately submitted the name of Superintendent Reardon, the latter was confirmed by a 6 to 3 vote with the lieutenant-governor favoring the appointment. Educators in many sections of the state had urged the reappointment of Dr. Smith.

The new commissioner, a graduate of Boston College, is well known to Greater Lynn school officials. He served as superintendent of schools at East Bridgewater before assuming his post at Adams.

**ITEM**  
Lynn, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## GOVERNOR MAY PARDON LYNNER FOR CHRISTMAS

**William A. Hooper Killed Full-Blooded Indian to Avenge Sister's Honor.**

William A. Hooper of Lynn and Glastonbury, Conn., serving six to 10 years in State prison for killing William Lewey, 35, a full-blooded Indian, for allegedly betraying Hooper's sister, Marion, may receive a real



WILLIAM A. HOOPER,  
May Get Freedom.

Christmas present in the form of an absolute pardon or at least his liberty on parole.

Present plans of the parole board and of the governor indicate that a pardon may be forthcoming. The alternative plan is that the six to 10 years sentence may be commuted by cutting it in half. In the latter event parole will be possible as parole can then be granted because Hooper will have served the necessary two-thirds of the minimum which then would be reduced from six to three years.

Hooper was sentenced by Judge Frederick W. Fosdick at Salem Superior court in early 1933, after Judge Fosdick declared, "No jury on earth would ever find this youth guilty of first degree murder or even of second degree murder."

### Beaten to Death

Young Hooper, who was living in Glastonbury, Conn., came to Lynn, he told the court, for the special purpose of killing Lewey, who was the father of a family of children, and by arrangement, met Lewey at Lynn beach not far from the State Bathhouse, just over the line in Nahant.

The interview had for its climax the killing of Lewey which Hooper admitted he had accomplished by beating him to death with a hammer.

Atty. James W. Santry, who was Hooper's attorney, has been at work seeking freedom for Hooper for nearly two years. Mr. Santry said this noon he has not been officially informed but Boston reports say that Hooper is on Gov. Curley's pardon list.

**Press Clipping Service**  
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BOSTON MASS.

**ITEM**

Lynn, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

(Continued on Page Three).

## JAMES REARDON SUCCESSOR TO PAYSON SMITH

**Governor's Council Confirms  
Adams Supt. of Schools Educational Commissioner.**

BOSTON, Dec. 19, 1935.—(AP)—A 36-year-old Boston college graduate, James G. Reardon, succeeded Dr. Payson Smith as State commissioner of education today.

Reardon was nominated and confirmed 6-3 by the executive council yesterday after the council had rejected Gov. James M. Curley's re-nomination of Dr. Smith 5-4. He will receive \$9000 per year.

On the vote for Dr. Smith's re-nomination Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley joined the Republican members in voting to retain the veteran commissioner of 20 years' standing. However, when Curley then submitted Reardon's name, Hurley voted for his confirmation.

### Supports Oath Law.

Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, has called himself a "100 per cent. supporter" of the teachers' oath law. Dr. Smith originally opposed it.

The council reappointed Henry F. Long as State commissioner of taxation and corporations and Paul G. Kirk as commissioner of public safety. Action was deferred on the appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.

Curley said he was undecided about reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney as director of the division of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman as commissioner of correction and Maj. George J. Cronin as State purchasing agent. The terms of Kenney and Lyman expired Dec. 1 and Cronin's term ended Dec. 13.



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TELEGRAM-NEWS  
Lynn, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# Solons Face Hectic Session With Many Bills on Slate

## STATE INCOME TAX BOOST, OATH REPEAL ON LONG LIST

Governor to Ask Cut in Number of Representatives in Message—To Ask Extension of 48-Hour Week

By GENE LORICK  
International News Service Staff Correspondent

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—Efforts to boost the state income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial teachers' oath law loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the gilded dome.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place 200,000 new contributors to state tax totals, through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

The jobs of half the representatives and senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence. Gov. Curley announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems facing the legislature—the "second annual session of the 149th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts"—some of which may be written into the statutes, and others snowed under in the battle of ballots either in house or senate.

Reduce state income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2,000 to \$1400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2,500 to \$1,900.

Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the recent Supreme Court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the executive council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Gov. Curley.

Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Langone, Jr., filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the state from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3 1-2 to 5 per cent on horses and from 3 1-2 to 10 per cent on the whippets.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week now in effect in state institutions to county institutions.

Place the State Police constabulary under civil service.

Raze the old State's prison at Charlestown, either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for State Welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and clarify statutes

prohibiting illegal practice of law. Liberalize laws pertaining to labor.

Prevent employment by the state of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, 60 less than last year on this date, and 48 in the Senate. The deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m. Jan. 11.

Press Clipping Service  
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BOSTON MASS.

ITEM

Lynn, Mass.

DEC 20 1935

dropped out of a contest in exchange for each penny played.

## CURLEY FAILED NELSON PRATT

The fact that Gov. Curley named another man for the post who has been confirmed by the executive council have dashed insistent rumors in Saugus the past day or two that former representative C. F. Nelson Pratt was recently appointed by Gov. Curley to membership on the State Board of Labor and Industry to serve as a deputy commissioner in the chairmanship of the State board of conciliation and arbitration to succeed Edward Fisher for years head of that board.

Mr. Pratt was an aspirant for the appointment which the governor gave to another candidate.



Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
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TELEGRAM-NEWS  
Lynn, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

## Honor Slaver



WILLIAM A. HOOPER  
Eligible For Parole in  
Beach Killing

## CLEMENCY IS GIVEN HOOPER, BEACH SLAYER

### Lynn Man Made Eligible for Parole on Christmas

William A. Hooper, 24, of 24 West Green street, who beat William J. Lewey, a World War veteran, to death with a hammer on the Lynn Beach reservation in February, 1933, is now eligible for parole.

Christmas clemency yesterday was granted Hooper, who was sentenced to serve six to seven years for the crime. Gov. Curley

commuted the sentence to three years. Five other State prisoners, including two lifers, had their sentences commuted.

Because Lewey allegedly had brought dishonor to his sister, Hooper assailed Lewey while they were digging clams together at the beach. A few minutes after the crime he confessed to Metropolitan police and was arrested on a manslaughter charge.

He was sentenced for manslaughter.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

TELEGRAM-NEWS  
Lynn, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

## SMITH SILENT ON REARDON APPOINTMENT

### New Commissioner of Education Took Oath Today

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—James G. Reardon, youngest man ever appointed to the position of state commissioner of education, took the oath of office today, less than 24 hours after his appointment.

Reardon, 35, was confirmed by the governor's executive council yesterday, 6 to 3, after it rejected the appointment of Dr. Payson Smith, commissioner since 1916, by a vote of 5 to 4.

Prior to the council session the governor conferred privately with Lt.-Gov. Hurley and the five Democratic councillors for 80 minutes. On the roll calls in the council, Councillors Winfield A. Schuster of Quincy and Frank A. Brooks of Watertown, Republicans, voted to confirm Smith and to reject Reardon. Lt.-Gov. Hurley voted to confirm Smith and subsequently voted to confirm Reardon.

Councillors Daniel H. Coakley of Boston, James J. Brennan of Somerville, William G. Hennessey of Lynn, Philip J. Russell of Fall River and Morton H. Burdick of West Springfield, Democrats, voted to reject Smith's nomination and to confirm Reardon's nomination.

The appointment of education commissioner is for a term of five years at an annual salary of \$9000 the second highest salary in the state service except for the judiciary.

Dr. Smith today made no statement but friends were said to be preparing a criticism of Gov. Curley and the council.

The council also confirmed: Lieut.-Col. Paul G. Kirk, reappointed commissioner of public safety for five years at \$6000 a year.

Henry Long, reappointed commissioner of corporations and taxation for three years at \$7500 a year.

Reardon, superintendent of Adams schools since September, said he had "some very definite ideas about the new duties," but refused to go into further detail.

The new commissioner spent his boyhood in Medway, where his 80-year-old father works at a mill bench today. During his school days and until he was graduated from Boston College, Reardon was known as the "cow-milking" student. Every day before and after school the youth milked the cows for his father.

After graduation from Boston College in 1923, Reardon began teaching in East Bridgewater. Later he became principal of the school and then superintendent. He was superintendent of East Bridgewater schools until he took the Adams position.

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

NEWS  
Malden, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

First Baptist church, two pm.

### The Dolan Case

THE ACTION of the city of Boston in bringing suit against its former treasurer, Mr. Dolan, for the recovery of large sums he is alleged to have made by the irregular purchase and sale of securities for fund accounts, bids fair to start currents that will have far-reaching political effects in the Commonwealth. The suit is as political in its implications as the famous Seabury investigation in New York. The offense—if one was actually committed—was hardly a personal one only; but was the fruit of the entire political set-up in Boston five years ago. And it becomes of more than local significance since the chief of that set-up, the former Mayor of Boston is now the Governor of the State and the dominant figure in the Democratic party. Mayor Mansfield makes no secret of the fact that he expects to involve others besides Mr. Dolan in the revelations he hopes to make in court. The Governor by his prompt defiance of the Mayor shows that he knows very well that he is in the zone of Mr. Mansfield's fire. The feud, for so it may safely be called, between these two prominent Democrats is capable of having a very marked effect on the fortunes of any Democrat who runs for high office next November. What that effect will amount to will be determined by the court proceedings in the Dolan case. On the outcome of this case not only the defendant's reputation but the political future of more than one distinguished Democrat may depend.



**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

**NEWS**  
Malden, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

**Atty D I Lucey Named  
Public Administrator**

Atty D I Lucey of 208 Main st, son of the late Jere Lucey and brother of Rev F E Lucey, SJ, and Patrolman J J Lucey, was named a public administrator for Middlesex County yesterday by Gov Curley and confirmed immediately by the Council. He succeeds Nicholas A Loumos of Newton. The appointment is for five years. A public administrator handles the estates of people who die with no relatives and who have not named anyone to handle their property by will.

**BOSTON MASS.**

**NEWS**  
Malden, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

**Governor Curley Fails  
To Reappoint Dr F W Gay  
Associate Medical Examiner**

Governor Curley failed to reappoint Dr F W Gay associate medical examiner for Malden, Medford, Everett and Somerville yesterday when he named Dr Andrew D Guthrie, Medford eye, ear, throat and nose specialist and member of Medford Rotary.

Dr Gay has held the office fourteen years, having been first appointed by Governor Channing H Cox. During nearly half of that time the late Dr Thos M Durell of Somerville who was medical examiner, was ill and Dr Gay performed all of the work.

Few surgeons in the employ of the Commonwealth have had a better record.

**BOSTON MASS.**

**ARGUS**  
Montpelier, Vt.

DEC 19 1935

complaints from several states of delays amounting to weeks.

**HOLIDAY PAROLES**

Boston, Dec. 19, (P)—Plans for Christmas and New Year paroles for 254 inmates of prisons, reformatories and the state farm were announced by Governor James M. Curley. Two life term prisoners and 20 women, reformatory inmates, were included in the list.

**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

**NEWS**  
Milford, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

**REARDON GIVEN  
HOME WELCOME**

Medway, Dec. 19—"Roddy" Reardon came home last night, 12 years out of Boston college, as the youngest commissioner of education the state—and possibly the country—has ever had.

Hurrying over the road from Adams, the 35-year-old successor to Dr. Payson Smith, returned to the colonial homestead on Village street, where his parents have lived all their married life, to find the house filled with admiring, enthusiastic friends.

They came from Belmont and West Roxbury and Arlington and half a dozen other cities and towns to greet the new commissioner. He didn't reach his old home until nearly midnight, but his reception was none the less enthusiastic.

Worn by the flood of phone calls and the constant stream of visitors, the new commissioner's 80-year-old father and 78-year-old mother had retired to await his homecoming. Every morning the father, William H. Reardon, goes at 7 a. m. to operate his finishing loom at the Fabyan Woolen Mills here. He has done this for 20 years, carrying a lunch with him and working a full eight hours. On the side, to pass away the evenings, the elder Reardon conducts an insurance business.

The mother, Mary Agnes (McGinniss) Reardon, is in remarkably good health. She, too, comes from a family long resident in Medway.

Commissioner Reardon's wife and four children are now in Adams—where the commissioner became superintendent of schools last September. Just as soon as he can arrange it, Commissioner Reardon and his family will come here to live at the homestead.

"The door will always be open here—and so will the door on Beacon Hill," he said after arrival. He preferred to make no discussion of his policies until after he has assumed office.

Mr. Reardon was sworn in by Gov. Curley at 11.30 o'clock this morning at the State House. At 11 a. m. friends gathered in the Hotel Bellevue for an informal reception.

**Press Clipping Service**  
2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

**NEWS**  
Milford, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

**HECTIC SESSION  
OF LEGISLATURE  
IS SEEN IN 1936**

By **GENE LORICK**

International News Service  
Staff Correspondent

Boston, Dec. 19—Efforts to boost the state income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial teachers' oath law loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the gilded dome.

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Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the recent Supreme court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the executive council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Governor Curley.

*Continued*



concluded

Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Langone, Jr., filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the state from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3 1-2 to 5 per cent on horses and from 3 1-2 to 10 per cent on the whippets.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week now in effect in state institutions to county institutions.

Place the state police constabulary under civil service.

Raze the old state's prison at Charlestown. Either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for state welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and clarify statutes prohibiting illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor.

Prevent employment by the state of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, sixty less than last year on this date, and 48 in the Senate. The deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., January 11.

L. S. MONTANA  
Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Up and Down Beacon Hill

### Political Chess

The political "chess-playing" of Governor Curley in his latest behind-the-scenes action at the State House proves that Dr. Payson Smith never had a chance to retain his post as state commissioner of education.

Governor Curley, for nearly three weeks, stalled off his action in ousting Dr. Smith and handing his \$9000-a-year job to James G. Reardon, Superintendent of Schools in Adams, Boston College graduate, and member of the Knights of Columbus.

While the Governor was withholding action he gave indications that he favored retention of Dr. Smith, who is considered an outstanding leader in his field. Even to close friends he presented that intimation.

### Curley's Strategy

Governor Curley may believe his strategy yesterday cloaked his action so that the man in the street was made to believe he tried to appoint Dr. Smith but the Council blocked him. But it would be difficult to find any man in the street who today accepts this ingenuous view.

The Governor himself, brazenly gave it away, when he said, "If the Council refuses to confirm Dr. Smith, I will appoint Mr. Reardon."

This statement, coming only a minute or two after Curley had been closeted with the six Democratic Council members for nearly an hour and a half, made the situation obvious. Governor Curley's packed Council had its instructions and carried them out.

### Hurley for Smith

Surprising though it may be, the only Democrat in the Council who refused to blackball Dr. Smith was Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley. The Lieutenant Governor, for the second time since he announced that he would seek the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, failed to support a Curley action.

Lieutenant Governor Hurley, of course desires the support of the Curley Democrats in the pre-primary convention. Yet he has voted against appointment of Thomas H. Green as State Commissioner of Civil Service and in favor of Smith, although later he voted to confirm Reardon. Unless there was some previous understanding between him and Mr. Curley, the first two votes can be interpreted as partial breaks with the Governor.

### Teachers Federation

Another angle on the Reardon situation came early, when the board of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers Federation voted 12 to 8 in favor of Mr. Reardon as commissioner of education, in place

of Dr. Smith. This vote came on the heels of votes in other educational organizations favoring Dr. Smith.

The story, heard about the State House, is that Governor Curley told Mr. Reardon that if he obtained the indorsement of the federation he would be appointed. He got it and the appointment.

The vote of the board of directors, while official, does not necessarily mean, however, that the entire teachers federation, or even a majority of it, approves of Mr. Reardon as the education commissioner.

### Opposition Grows

It is doubtful whether the Governor's little plan aided him politically. The move caters to a certain powerful religious group, which has been after Dr. Smith's scalp, a group which has invariably supported Curley in the past.

The move is certain to build up among the more conservative element and among the supporters of good government a greater opposition to the Governor than ever. This, coupled with his move in regards to previous appointments and other Beacon Hill actions, is not doing him any good.

The Governor may believe he is so strong politically that no matter what he does he will be victorious in the 1936 campaign. Other politicians, even those close to the Governor, are not so certain.

Many believe the Governor is on the toboggan of public favor, and

that unless he does something drastic to stop his swift descent, the toboggan will not run up hill.

### Labor Watches

Labor is certain to watch Mr. Reardon's every move. The Massachusetts State Federation of Labor is eager to win their fight this year to increase the compulsory school age from 14 to 16 years. With Payson Smith's support they gained several points during the 1935 session, although in the end they were again defeated.

Labor will keep track of Mr. Reardon's stand on this measure and undoubtedly will make things uncomfortable for him, if he fails to support it.

As for Dr. Smith, labor is sorry to see him go, although unlike his opponents, it contends that Dr. Smith was not a faddist. Robert J. Watt, the federation secretary, declared Dr. Smith was actually a conservative and a high type public official, the very kind of person needed for the job.

Mr. Watt pointed out that Dr. Smith has not favored all labor's proposals, but that under him the Massachusetts school system has progressed steadily.

Edgar M. M...



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*E. S. Monitor*  
Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Foley to Hand Schools Case To Grand Jury

Evidence of Alleged Graft  
to Go Before Special  
Session Next Week

**Boston Today—also**  
*sees*—Reardon go into of-  
fice as protests mount on  
three grounds -- State  
census show gain in  
population — Statistician  
say professors are no bet-  
ter than typical man in  
buying shirts—Cambridge  
housing project proceed  
despite council refusal to  
close streets for construc-  
tion.

### Schools—Teacher Case Goes to the Grand Jury

Acting with surprising suddenness  
District Attorney William J. Foley  
today asked for a special session of  
the Grand Jury to meet Monday and  
hear evidence gathered in the School  
Committee case. This involves al-  
leged sale of teachers jobs and con-  
tracts for school supplies and build-  
ings.

Two members of the School Com-  
mittee who were interviewed by the  
District Attorney today will testify  
before the Grand Jury, Mr. Foley  
disclosed. Nature of their testimony  
was not revealed, but it was under-  
stood to revolve around allegations  
that two men, operating from the  
office of a School Committee mem-  
ber, tried to collect amounts rang-  
ing from \$50 to \$7500 from teach-  
ers who wished to make sure of  
their positions or promotions, and  
offered school contracts for con-  
siderations.

A new aspect of the same allega-  
tions was revealed today when the

District Attorney said that an archi-  
tect had reported he was approached  
concerning payment for an order for  
plans for a school building.

Three members appeared sep-  
arately to talk with the District  
Attorney today. They were Frederick  
R. Sullivan, Maurice J. Tobin and  
Dr. Charles E. Mackey, chairman.

The fourth member, Joseph V.  
Lyons, is out of the city, but sent  
word he would see Foley tomorrow.  
In addition to the School Committee  
members, City Councilor Robert  
Gardiner Wilson talked with the  
District Attorney.

The conversations were surrounded  
with secrecy. The only statement  
issued was made by Dr. Mackey just  
after he appeared at the courthouse  
with his sister, Miss Genevieve  
Mackey, a school teacher. He ex-  
pressed confidence in the integrity of  
the School Committee.

### Reardon—Inducted In Office as Protests Grow

While clouds of protests gathered  
in various parts of the State, Gov-  
ernor Curley today administered the  
oath of office to James G. Reardon,  
installing him as Commissioner of  
Education. Following the simple  
ceremonies which took place in the  
executive chambers, the Governor  
congratulated Mr. Reardon, saying  
he appreciated the circumstance that  
his education and training was equal  
to that of Dr. Payson Smith, whom  
Mr. Reardon succeeds.

Protests were based chiefly on  
three grounds:

1. That it was unjust to displace  
Dr. Smith who has guided the Com-  
monwealth's schools to a high po-  
sition of regard during his nearly 20  
years incumbency.

2. That the appointment ap-  
peared to be due to pressure from  
a religious group.

3. Reardon's stand in favor of the  
teacher's oath.

Replying to criticism from Robert  
J. Watt, secretary of the Massachu-  
setts Federation of Labor, and others  
relative to his oath position, Mr.  
Reardon, immediately after his in-  
duction of office today, issued a  
statement plainly indicating he will  
insist on all teachers taking the oath  
without delay.

This attitude was in direct contra-  
diction to Dr. Smith's policy of  
granting every consideration to those  
hesitating over the oath.

Characterizing the appointment of  
Mr. Reardon as "a most contempti-  
ble act on the part of the Curley  
Administration," Dr. A. Z. Conrad,  
pastor of the Park Street Church,  
today registered himself as opposed  
to the change. "The removal," he  
said, "of Payson Smith is an exem-  
plification, part and parcel, of  
Curley politics."

Disclosing that he had no plans  
for the immediate future, Dr. Smith  
today vacated the office in the State  
House he had used since 1917. Less  
than 24 hours after his reappoint-  
ment had been refused he found  
another man occupying his position.

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*E. S. Monitor*  
Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## It Is Happening Here

**I**N rejecting Dr. Payson Smith in favor  
of James G. Reardon as Massachu-  
setts Commissioner of Education, Gov.  
James M. Curley seems to be intent on  
showing that as his power grows his  
political maneuvers become increasingly  
patent.

"If the Council refuses to confirm Dr.  
Smith, I will appoint Mr. Reardon," said  
the Governor yesterday when he reap-  
pointed the man who has served Massa-  
chusetts so excellently for eighteen years.  
Strangely enough, the Council accepted  
the invitation—or order—and turned  
down Dr. Smith! And then, of course, the  
Governor had to keep his word; he ap-  
pointed Mr. Reardon. What effect this  
hocus-pocus was intended to produce  
upon the open-mouthed spectators, it is  
hard to imagine. Surely the Governor does  
not expect Massachusetts citizens to be-  
lieve that a Curley-controlled Council  
performs except when the Governor  
cracks the whip.

A short time ago, when Massachusetts  
was said to be following in the wake of  
Louisiana, a large group of people pro-  
tested indignantly that "Such a thing  
can't happen in Massachusetts." The fact  
remains that it is happening. The Gov-  
ernor has gained control of the Council;  
has caused \$13,000,000 to be placed at his  
disposal for patronage purposes; has so  
far held almost complete control of the  
Legislature.

In this light, the ousting of Dr. Smith,  
in itself an injury to the schools and in  
its manner an insult to the intelligence  
of citizens, is also a step along the path to  
dictatorship in Massachusetts.



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TELEGRAM  
Nashua, N. H.

DEC 19 1935

## TOWNSEND CHIEF SEES CURLEY "OUT"

### Won't Get By Bay State Primary Says Hawks

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Boston Traveler, in a copyrighted story, says Charles M. Hawks, Massachusetts, manager of the Townsend Pension Plan club, predicted Governor James M. Curley would not be nominated for the U. S. Senate. "We have 30,000 registered Townsend club members in Massachusetts," the Traveler quotes him as saying, "and we have ten times that many signers of pledges. That makes 300,000 votes."

Referring to Curley's avowed plan of running for the senate, the paper quotes Hawks as saying: "Curley won't get by the primaries. Every time he goes on the air and talks for Roosevelt's pauper pension plan, he licks himself. A year ago we had 45 clubs in Massachusetts and now we have 154 clubs."

"I believe Mr. Roosevelt's New Deal will be repudiated by a tremendous degree in this state."

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GAZETTE  
Northampton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## REGRET FAILURE TO RE-APPOINT SMITH

### Members of Smith Faculty Comment on Action by Governor Curley

Dr. William Allan Neilson, president of Smith college, and members of the faculty, last night joined with other educators in the western end of the state in protesting against the failure to re-name Dr. Payson Smith as commissioner of education for Massachusetts. The consensus is that Massachusetts has suffered an irreparable loss and that the welfare of children has been sacrificed to politics.

Though few commented directly on the appointment of James G. Reardon of Adams as Dr. Smith's successor, they voiced regret that a supporter of the teachers' oath bill which has met with opposition by teachers in all parts of the state should head the department of education.

The following was the reaction of educators at Smith college to the appointment of Reardon, to displace Dr. Smith as state commissioner of education:

President William A. Neilson: "The failure to reappoint Dr. Payson Smith is, in my opinion, a calamity for the interests of education in Massachusetts. His service has not only been long and faithful but highly intelligent. It is extremely unfortunate that for reasons which one can only suppose to be political, the commonwealth should be deprived of services of so great value as those of Dr. Smith."

Prof. S. Ralph Harlow of the department of religion and Biblical literature. "No political act in my years of experience as a teacher has so undermined respect for the state as has the teachers' oath bill. The teachers of this state have been almost a unit in indorsing Payson Smith as commissioner of education, partly because he was courageous enough to oppose the present administration's attacks on the teachers."

"Gov. Curley has put in his place a man supporting patriotism by compulsion. Unfortunately, little else could have been expected. The teachers, however, in this state outnumber by a good

majority the members of the American Legion. The fight to repeal this undemocratic piece of legislation will continue in spite of the appointment of a commissioner who favors it."

Harold U. Faulkner, of the department of history, expressed disappointment in the appointment of Mr. Reardon: "If the recent statement of Robert J. Watt, secretary-treasurer of the State Federation of Labor, that the new commissioner is 100 per cent in favor of the teachers' oath bill, is true, then I agree with him that this alone should disqualify him for the post of commissioner of education."

Elliott M. Grant, of the French department, stated: "The appointment is most unfortunate if Mr. Reardon is in support of the teachers' oath bill."

GAZETTE  
Northampton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## REARDON HEADS EDUCATION DEPT.

### Succeeds Dr. Payson Smith; Long and Kirk Reappointed; Kenney's Fate Uncertain

Boston, Dec. 19—(AP)—A 36 year old Boston college graduate, James G. Reardon, succeeded Dr. Payson Smith as state commissioner of education today.

Reardon was nominated and confirmed 6-3 by the executive council yesterday after the council had rejected Governor James M. Curley's renomination of Dr. Smith, 5 to 4. He will receive \$9000 per year.

On the vote for Dr. Smith's renomination Lt. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley joined the Republican members in voting to retain the veteran commissioner of 20 years' standing. However, when Curley then submitted Reardon's name, Hurley voted for his confirmation.

Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, has called himself a "100 per cent supporter" of the teachers' oath law. Dr. Smith originally opposed it.

The council reappointed Henry F. Long as state commissioner of taxation and corporations and Paul G. Kirk as commissioner of public safety. Action was referred on the appointment of Howard H. Murphy, of Osterville, as commissioner of agriculture.

Curley said he was undecided about reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney as director of the division of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman as commissioner of correction and Major George J. Cronin as state purchasing agent.

The terms of Kenney and Lyman expired Dec. 1 and Cronin's term ended Dec. 13.



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NEWS  
Newburyport, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# MANY OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS ARE FACING INCOMING LEGISLATURE

## Next Session of General Court Expected to Be as Hectic as Any in History

By GENE LORICK

INS Staff Correspondent

Boston, Dec. 19, (INS)—Efforts to boost the state income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial teachers' oath loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming legislature. The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the gilded dome.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place 200,000 new contributors to state tax totals, through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on non-manufacturing concerns.

The jobs of half the representatives and senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence. Governor James M. Curley announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems facing the legislature—the "second annual session of the 149th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts"—some of which may be written into the statutes, and others snowed under in the battle of ballots either in House or Senate:

Reduce state income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2000 to \$1400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2500 to \$1900.

Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the re-

cent supreme court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owners if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the executive council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Governor Curley.

Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Langone, Jr., filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

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Raze the old state's prison at Charlestown, either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for state welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

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Liberalize laws pertaining to labor.

Prevent employment by the state of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, 60 less than last year on this date, and 48 in the Senate. The deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., January 11.

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Northampton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

tions, eventually, must be met by the taxpayers themselves.

### EMPTY GESTURE

Governor Curley's "reappointment" of Payson Smith as commissioner of education, which was rejected by his executive council, and his subsequent submitting of the name of James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools in Adams, for the post which Dr. Smith had held since 1916, was a pretty transparent piece of business. If the governor had been very anxious to have Commissioner Smith reappointed, there is little doubt but the council, which holds a Democratic majority, would have heeded his desires.

As it was, the governor went through the motions of offering the name of Dr. Smith, and the council promptly rejected the reappointment, all six Democrats voting it down. Then the governor submitted the nomination of Mr. Reardon, and it was confirmed at once under suspension of rules. Boston reports do not indicate that Gov. Curley appeared disturbed by any "revelation" on the part of his council, and the conclusion is inescapable that the councillors acted as he wanted them to.

The new education commissioner no doubt will do a satisfactory job. He is a college graduate with 11 years' experience as superintendent of schools in East Bridgewater and a year at Adams. But it will be difficult for him, as it would be for most other young educators, to fill the shoes of Payson Smith.

The council's confirmation of the reappointment of Paul G. Kirk as commissioner of public safety will be pleasing to all who are interested in the development of the state police and the safeguarding of the public. He has proved an efficient, able man for the position. Likewise the confirmation of Tax Commissioner Long's reappointment should be gratifying to all.



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Northampton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

### MILITARY BALL WILL BE HELD HERE TONIGHT

Gov. Curley to Be Represented  
by Major Higginson; Many  
Guests Expected

A host of prominent military figures are among the invited guests for the 13th annual military ball of Co. G, National Guard, to be held this evening in the state armory. A large crowd is expected at the ball, for which the music will be provided by Bob Miller's orchestra.

Gov. James M. Curley has been invited to attend, but cannot come, and it is announced he will be represented by Major John J. Higginson of Springfield, a member of the governor's staff. Others who have received invitations are members of the State National Guard staff, including Brig.-Gen. Edmund Slate of Holyoke, Brig.-Gen. Herbert N. Kelley of Greenfield, Acting-Mayor Charles L. Dunn, City Clerk John P. Foley, Rep. Edwin L. Olander, the Hampshire county commissioners, the selectmen, and Col. H. T. Appleton of M. S. C., Amherst; Col. George A. Taylor of Hadley, Col. William J. Collins of this city, Col. William T. Lawless of Amherst, formerly of London, Ont., for 50 years in the British army; members of the various veterans' organizations in this section and the personnel of the officers' staff of the 104th regiment.

Lieut. Raymond J. Lane is chairman of the general committee. Individual committee chairmen are: Reception, Sergt. Roy Benoit; checking, Sergt. Francis O'Connor and Privts. Herbert Montena, Henry Kocot and Bernard Benoit; refreshments, Corp. Justin B. Warriner and Corp. Harold Hicks; tickets, Corp. Neil J. Martel and Privts. Francis G. Miller and Wilfred Challet; decorations, Corp. Joseph J. Tobin.

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RECORD  
New Britain, Conn.

DEC 19 1935

## State of Massachusetts to Bill Government for Civil War Debt

Boston, Dec. 19 (UP)—Massachusetts moved today to collect from the federal government a Civil war debt purportedly incurred at President Abraham Lincoln's request.

It is claimed that during the Civil war the state spent \$233,885.82 at Lincoln's request to protect its harbors and fortify the coast.

The state executive committee paved the way for the unusual claim by authorizing Francis R. Mullin, Boston attorney, to seek congressional legislation which would permit him, as agent for Massachusetts, to prosecute its claim.

Mullin reported to Governor James M. Curley that the state had a sound claim and that he would be

glad to take the necessary steps to recover the amount—for 10 per cent of what he finally collects from Uncle Sam.

The action, it appears, is not without precedent. Neither is the fee.

In fact, according to Mullin, Massachusetts tried to cash in on the claim more than 25 years ago during the administration of Governor Eben S. Draper but was unsuccessful because there was no existing legislation making the recovery possible.

But it was successful in another and larger claim, Mullin said.

For state troops furnished during the Civil war, he said, one Frank W. Hackett collected \$886,389 from the federal government—at 10 per cent.

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STANDARD  
New Bedford, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

### Unbecoming

Governor Curley would appear in a much better light if he had openly assumed his share of responsibility for the appointment of a new Commissioner of Education to succeed Payson Smith, instead of trying to make it appear that he was for Smith, but the Council would not confirm his nomination. That, of course, is what the record shows, but no one will be fooled by it. The Council, which Mr. Curley went to any amount of trouble to make over from a Republican body into a Democratic one that would go along with him, would have confirmed Mr. Smith if the majority members had not known that they were expected to help the Governor by not confirming him. If Mr. Curley wanted Mr. Reardon appointed—and he was within his rights in making a change—the straightforward course would have been to nominate him, instead of trying to make it appear that his own Councillors over-rode his wishes.



STANDARD  
New Bedford, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## REARDON TAKES STATE OFFICE; SMITH OUSTED

Council Maneuver Assailed  
as Adams Man Gets  
Education Post

### PROTESTS ARE MADE

Long and Kirk Retained in  
Jobs; Delay Vote  
on Murphy

*Special to Standard-Times*

BOSTON, Dec. 19 — James G. Reardon, 36-year-old Boston College graduate and superintendent of schools in the town of Adams, will take the oath of office today as State Commissioner of Education amid widespread indignation among educators at the removal of Commissioner Payson Smith of Brookline after 20 years of service as head of this department.

He is the youngest such officer the Bay State has ever had.

The maneuver of the Council by which Reardon was made Commissioner was vigorously assailed by Councilor Winfield A. Schuster and Representative Philip G. Bowker as a "pre-arranged plan of the Governor to save his face."

#### Called Gesture

Both Bowker and Schuster called the action of the Governor in first submitting the name of Smith a "mere gesture." Smith, with Lieutenant Governor Joseph L. Hurley voting in his favor, was rejected, five to four. Reardon's name was then submitted and, with Lieutenant Governor Hurley voting for him, he was confirmed six to three.

While the ousting of Smith, who held the important post for 19 years, was attacked, praise greeted the reappointment of Commissioner of Public Safety Paul G. Kirk and Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation Henry F. Long, whose terms expired Dec. 1.

The Governor had announced that he would submit Dr. Smith's reappointment to the Council, but that Reardon's nomination would be submitted in the event Dr. Smith was denied confirmation.

### Retain Offices



HENRY F. LONG



PAUL G. KIRK

#### Long Conference

Prior to the Council session the Governor conferred privately with Lieutenant Governor Hurley and the five Democratic councillors for 80 minutes. Within 15 minutes after this prolonged conference rules had been suspended to arrange for the rejection of Smith's nomination and Reardon's confirmation.

On the rollcalls in the Council, Councilor Schuster of Douglas, Joseph B. Grossman of Quincy and Frank A. Brooks of Watertown, Republicans, voted to confirm Smith and to reject Reardon. Lieutenant Governor Hurley voted to confirm Smith and subsequently voted to confirm Reardon.

Councillors Daniel H. Coakley of Boston, James J. Brennan of Somerville, William G. Hennessey of Lynn, Philip J. Russell of Fall River and Morton H. Burdick of West Springfield, Democrats, voted to reject Smith's nomination and to confirm Reardon's nomination.

The appointment of Education Commissioner is for a term of five years at an annual salary of \$9,000, the second highest salary in the State service except for the judiciary. The only department salary in excess of this is the \$10,000 paid the Commissioner of Mental Diseases.

Dr. Smith had no comment to make on the procedure which resulted in his ouster after having served continuously as the head of the department of education since 1916, when he was originally appointed by the late Governor Samuel W. McCall. He was reappointed successively by Governors Coolidge, Fuller and Allen.

#### Numerous Protests

Numerous protests, however, were registered by educators and spokesmen for various civic organizations, not against the appointment of Reardon but against the removal of Dr. Smith, whose term expired Dec. 1.

Among leaders in civic and educational organizations expressing disappointment that Dr. Smith had been dropped were Willard Atwell, President of the Massachusetts School Superintendents' Association; Joseph Lee, President of the Massachusetts Civic League; Mrs. Paul H. Kelsey, President of the Massachusetts Parent-Teachers' Association; James A. Chalmers, Fitchburg, President of the Massachusetts High School Principals' Association.

#### Plunkett Protests

Objection to the appointment was made by Senator Theodore R. Plunkett, a Republican, who supported the Governor's policies in the Legislature. Plunkett's protest was significant because he is a resident of the town where Reardon now serves as superintendent of schools.

Reardon was not sworn into office yesterday by the Governor because he was in Adams.

Reardon was born in Medway July 22, 1900. He attended the grammar and high schools there before matriculating at Boston College from which he was graduated in 1923. In his freshman year he served in the R.O.T.C. unit. He received his master's degree from Boston College and pursued additional courses at Harvard.

He served as principal of a school in East Bridgewater and also taught in the town's high school for a year before being appointed superintendent of school, an office he filled for eight years. He resigned last Spring and was appointed superintendent at Adams in September.

While teaching at East Bridgewater he married Anita Thorndike.

*Continued*



daughter of the late Judge Herbert C. Thorndike of the Brockton district court. They have four children, two of whom attend school in Adams.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Reardon, live in Medway. He has three brothers, Lawrence J., John H. and William A. Reardon. He is a member of the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus.

#### Protest from Watt

The only protest against his nomination made by anyone associated with the Curley Administration came from Robert J. Watt, member of the State Unemployment Compensation Commission. His statement follows:

"If Mr. Reardon is quoted correctly in saying that he is 100 percent for the teachers' oath, that statement alone should disqualify him as commissioner. Massachusetts was the birthplace of American liberty and it should not be its graveyard.

"People who believe in the teachers' oath are believers in the communistic method of teaching, which is regimenting of school children by the regimentation of their school teachers. If a man who believes in this form of teaching is appointed the walls of Faneuil Hall will begin to tumble."

The Council put over for a third time the confirmation of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as Commissioner of Agriculture, but confirmed A. J. Lawlor of Lawrence as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy in place of William Hardie of Fall River.

Others confirmed by the Council:

Orville S. Pinkham, Watertown, Pilot Commissioner, District 1; Frank H. Peterson, Medford, Pilot Commissioner, District 1; John Sullivan, Fall River, Deputy Pilot Commissioner, District 4, to succeed D. Gardiner O'Keefe; James S. McQuade, New Bedford, Deputy Pilot Commissioner, District 3, to succeed Manuel P. Marshall; Daniel Lucey, Malden, Public Administrator to succeed Nicholas A. Loumos; Daniel E. Kiley, Adams, Clerk of 4th District Court of Berkshire, to succeed Edwin K. McPeck; Andrew D. Guthrie, Medford, Associate Medical Examiner, 2nd Middlesex District, to succeed Fritz W. Gay; Arthur J. O'Neil, Quincy, stenographer in Executive Department.

### Press Clipping Service 2 Park Square BOSTON MASS.

MERCURY  
New Bedford, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Reardon, Oath Law Friend, Becomes Education Chief

### Council Confirms Him After Downing Smith Nomination

BOSTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—In five minutes today, Dr. Payson Smith was ousted as state commissioner of education after almost two decades of service, and a dark horse among those mentioned to succeed him was appointed and confirmed.

After months of continuous agitation from teachers to reappoint Dr. Smith, who is 63, Governor James M. Curley submitted his name to the Executive Council, which rejected the nomination, five to four.

The governor immediately offered the name of James G. Reardon, 36-year-old superintendent of schools in Adams, and the council just as quickly confirmed him as commissioner. The vote was six to three, strictly on party lines.

Among numerous candidates mentioned as possibly successors to Dr. Smith, Reardon had received no special notice or support until last night, when a majority of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation

endorsed him. A minority favored Dr. Smith's retention.

Reardon styled himself a "100 percent supporter" of the controversial state teachers' oath act, while Dr. Smith originally opposed it. How much weight was attached by the councillors to these attitudes of the respective candidates, however, was not immediately apparent.

Reardon's term of office is five years and his salary \$9,000.

While rejecting Dr. Smith's reappointment, the council confirmed reappointment of two other state officials appointed before Governor Curley was elected.

One was Henry F. Long, state commissioner of taxation and corporations, in public service for many years. He was reappointed for a term of three years, at a salary of \$7,500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31-year-old commissioner of public safety, appointed by Governor Curley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely. He will serve five years at \$6,000 annually.

Governor Curley, explaining the council's vote on the Smith reappointment, said:

"I conferred with the Democratic members of the council concerning the Smith appointment before the council session, and with the exception of the lieutenant-governor, they were all opposed to Mr. Smith."

Reardon, a Boston College graduate in 1923 and an American Legionnaire, studied also at Harvard and Boston Universities.

He has been superintendent at Adams for a year, going there after serving in the same capacity at East Bridgewater for eight years. He also had taught at East Bridgewater High School, and was principal for a year.

The council today deferred again action on the governor's appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.



**Press Clipping Service**  
**2 Park Square**  
**BOSTON MASS.**

**STANDARD**  
**New Bedford, Mass.**

DEC 19 1935

## OATH, TAX BILLS PROMISE FIGHT IN LEGISLATURE

**Biennial Session, Slash in  
Solons' Ranks  
Proposed**

**250 BILLS ARE ON FILE**

**Governor to Ask Executive  
Council Abolished in  
Coming Session**

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (INS) — Efforts to boost the state income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial teachers' oath law loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming Legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the gilded dome.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place 200,000 new contributors to state tax totals, through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

### **Jobs at Stake**

The jobs of half the representatives and senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence. Governor Curley announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the Legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems facing the Legislature—the "Second Annual Session of the 149th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts":

Reduce state income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2,000 to \$1,400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2,500 to \$1,900.

### **Revise Insurance Law**

Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the recent Supreme Court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the Executive Council, to be recommended in the pro-

posals for legislation in the message of Governor Curley.

Ouster of Boston's Mayor Mansfield. Senator Langone filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the State from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3½ to 5 percent on horses and from 3½ to 10 percent on the whippets.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

### **48-Hour Week**

Extend the 48-hour week now in effect in state institutions to county institutions.

Place the State police constabulary under Civil Service.

Raze the old State's Prison at Charlestown, either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for state welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Organize a Massachusetts state bar to govern the conduct of attorneys.

Broaden and clarify statutes prohibiting illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor.

Prevent employment by the State of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, 60 less than last year on this date, and 48 in the Senate, the deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., Jan. 11.

## **Bill Would End Split Up Of Hours on State Work**

*Special to Standard-Times*

TAUNTON, Dec. 19—Representative Joseph W. Dooley, Democrat, of this city has prepared a bill for the next session of the Legislature which calls for employes of state institutions to complete their day's work of eight hours within a period of nine hours. This provision was not included in the 48-hour bill passed by the last Legislature.

Representative Dooley said, in making a survey of the situation throughout the state, that he has received information that in some instances persons have had their work schedule arranged in such a manner that the eight-hour day was spread over 14 hours.

The Taunton legislator has also prepared a bill which calls for the establishment of a state reservation at Sabbatia Lake and the adjacent land situated in the north section of the city. It has long been considered to be one of the beauty spots of the district. The lake is ideal for boating, fishing and swimming.

**Press Clipping Service**  
**2 Park Square**  
**BOSTON MASS.**

**MERCURY**  
**New Bedford, Mass.**

DEC 19 1935

## YULE PARDON FIGURES VARY

**Curley Says 200, Olney  
100 to Be Freed from  
State Farm**

BOSTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—Scores of inmates in Massachusetts penal institutions, including two serving life sentences for murder, were gladdened tonight by news of their pending release by Christmas.

Gov. James M. Curley announced that 200 prisoners serving sentences for drunkenness at the State Farm would be released on parole during a five-day period Christmas day.

On the other hand, Richard Olney, Chairman of the Board of Paroles, set the figure at "a little more than 100," "many of whom," he added, "would have been freed at that time anyway."

The gates of the Women's Reformatory at Sherborn would be opened for 20 women there, Gov. Curley said, and the State Board of Paroles, he added, has authorized the release of 15 serving sentences Jan. 31, he added.

Announcement of the Christmas "gift" paroles was made prior to the meeting of the Council at which the governor recommended clemency for five prisoners through commutation of their sentences to make them eligible for parole.

Action on the governor's commutation recommendations was deferred by the Council until a special session next Monday.

One of the lifers is Samuel Powers of Westfield, imprisoned since 1914 for the murder of his wife. Curley asked the Council to commute his sentence to 20 years, making him eligible for parole.

The other is Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in 1920 for murdering Mary B. Lavoie. Commutation of the sentence to 20 years was asked for Birusz to make him eligible for parole with the understanding he be deported to Poland, his native country.

The three other prisoners for whom commutation was asked included Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in 1932 to 10 to 12 years for burning a building. The governor requested a reduction to four to 12 years.



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**MERCURY**  
**New Bedford, Mass.**

DEC 19 1935

Circumstances attending the ousting of Payson Smith as Massachusetts Commissioner of Education, which took place in the Governor's Council yesterday, recall to New Bedford people the manner in which the late William E. Hatch, predecessor of Allen P. Keith, as superintendent of schools, was dropped. Mayor William J. Bullock, ex-officio chairman of the School Board, who was reported to have been active in the movement to remove Mr. Hatch, was present at the board meeting; and when the roll was about to be called on a motion for the superintendent's re-election, he directed the clerk to call his name last, instead of first, as was the usual procedure. By the time the mayor's name was reached, the count showed that Mr. Hatch was defeated beyond question; and Mayor Bullock voted in his favor.

At yesterday's meeting of the Council Governor Curley reappointed Dr. Smith as commissioner of education, although the report was current in Boston yesterday that the appointment of James G. Reardon was expected to be announced by the governor within a few days; and on Tuesday night, at a meeting of the directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation, one of the members introduced a resolution favoring the appointment of James G. Reardon, and told the other directors that Governor Curley would regard the endorsement favorably.

At the Council meeting yesterday afternoon, the six Democratic members voted to reject Dr. Smith's appointment, with three Republicans recorded in favor of Dr. Smith. The governor immediately appointed Mr. Reardon, and the appointment was confirmed by the same party vote. The new appointee is superintendent of schools in Adams, Mass.

The Council's action climaxes a bitter fight in the Teachers' Federation. In recommending Mr. Reardon's appointment Tuesday night, on the ground that "the teachers of the Commonwealth are vitally interested in the appointment of a commissioner who will best serve the interest of education in this state," the directors of the Federation adopted a resolution which alleged

that a recent endorsement of Dr. Smith was the work of the president and secretary of the Federation "purporting to represent 21,000 members."

A minority report was presented, charging that Mr. Reardon's endorsement was the result of electioneering by certain members of the board, and stating that the signers did not wish the members of the Federation to think they had "stooped to such unethical methods as to endorse a person for a position that is not already vacant."

**Press Clipping Service**  
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**MERCURY**  
**New Bedford, Mass.**

DEC 19 1935

## CLUB APPLAUDS ACT OF CURLEY

### Approves Nomination of McQuade as Deputy Commissioner

The New Bedford City Club, at a meeting in the Blackmer Building last evening, instructed Secretary Timothy J. Manning to draw up resolutions expressing gratitude to Governor Curley for his appointment of James S. McQuade, a club member, to the position of deputy pilot commissioner yesterday.

More than 100 members attended the meeting, which was conducted by James J. Payton. It was reported that 12 new members had been admitted.

Following the business session a varied entertainment was presented with George Walsh acting as master of ceremonies. Among the performers were Armand Landry, magician; Leo P. Payton, humorist; Jacob Kestenbaum, vocalist, with James Cameron accompanying on his piano accordion. Mr. Cameron also provided many popular selections.

The speakers of the evening were two club members: Jacintho F. Diniz, deputy commissioner of insurance, and Dr. William Rosen, medical examiner for the district.

**Press Clipping Service**  
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**STANDARD**  
**New Bedford, Mass.**

DEC 19 1935

## CURLEY SEEKS FREEDOM FOR FOUR KILLERS

Also Asks Commutation  
for Pyromaniac, 235 Other  
Convicts Dec. 25

*Special to Standard-Times*

BOSTON, Dec. 19—Governor Curley has recommended the extension of executive clemency to four killers and one confessed pyromaniac now serving long term sentences at State Prison. The Executive Council will meet in special session Monday to consider granting them commutations which will make them eligible for immediate parole.

The Governor also announced that he has authorized the Department of Correction to release 200 State Farm inmates and 20 women's reformatory inmates before Christmas. Most of them were committed for drunkenness.

The State Board of Parole, at his direction, also will release 15 first offenders from the reformatory at Concord with the release of 14 others to be ordered before Jan. 31.

The State Prison convicts for whom he has recommended sentence commutations are Samuel Powers of Westfield and Wojciech Birosz of Salem, lifers; and William Hooper of Lynn; Henry A. Gardner of Worcester and Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge.



Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

ENTERPRISE  
Orange, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Another Jolt To Curleyism

Winfield A. Schuster, appointed a member of the governor's council by Governor Ely at the age of 26, a former student at Worcester academy, Harvard and Brown universities, was the Monday night speaker at the meeting of the Kiwanis club. While at Brown Mr. Schuster was a member of the varsity baseball team and later organized and managed one of the best semi-professional baseball teams in Massachusetts. He is at present the head of several large textile concerns but takes time off to be an energetic member of the governor's council.

Without attempting to be partisan or offending anyone's political beliefs, Mr. Schuster handed a broadside to the administration under Gov. James Curley. He went into some detail with regard to Curley's dismissals and appointments, the turning out of tried and trusted officials who had served the commonwealth faithfully and efficiently for many years to make way for individuals more friendly to "his excellency." One of these disposed officials had served the state for 27 years. Mr. Schuster then named past republican and democratic governors of this state whose records for constructive service, dignity and integrity seemed to stand out in marked contrast to what has been the order of things the past two years. It was Mr. Schuster's opinion that present conditions in Massachusetts were not far removed from those which obtained in Huey Long's Louisiana.

This week's club bulletin gives an inkling of what the club has done the past year for underprivileged children as the result of two bills just paid, one for \$112.50 to the Heywood hospital in Gardner for tonsil operations on 15 children and the other for \$150.00 to Dr. F. T. Waters for cleaning, filling and extracting teeth of local children in need of dental treatment. For the annual Christmas party entertainment plans are being made to present a burlesque on the Major Bowes' amateur radio program idea. Dr. K. L. Alexander is chairman of the committee in charge.

EAGLE  
Pittsfield, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## FACTS JUSTIFY OATH LAW, REARDAN SAYS, AS CURLEY SWEARS HIM INTO OFFICE

Former 36-Year-Old Adams School Superintendent Declares He Will Uphold Standards in Field of Education—Those Opposing Oath of Allegiance May Change Law, but as Long as It Is on Books They Should Abide by It

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (P).—James G. Reardan, 36, Superintendent of Schools in Adams, was sworn in today by Governor James M. Curley as Massachusetts' Commissioner of Education. He will receive \$9000 a year.

The young educator, whose nomination was confirmed yesterday by the Executive Council after that body declined to approve the reappointment of Dr. Payson Smith, took the oath of office in the executive chambers in the presence of relatives and friends.

In brief remarks, after he administered the oath, Governor Curley told the new Commissioner he was certain Reardan was well qualified to fill the office.

Reardan has called himself a "100 per cent supporter" of the teachers' oath law. Dr. Smith originally opposed it. Mr. Reardan said:

### Reardan's Statement

"My interests from now on will be to uphold the high standards which have made Massachusetts conspicuous in the field of education. I shall be ready to do everything in my power to further adult education, to maintain and, if possible, improve the standing of schools, and to do everything possible to secure employment for the young men and women citizens of Massachusetts who are qualified for teaching positions. As to any specific program, I prefer to make no announcement until I have had opportunity to become more familiar with the problems now under consideration in the State Department of Education.

"Regarding the oath, at the present, the law of the State is that the teachers should take the oath. The General Court of Massachusetts has decided that at present such an oath is necessary. As long as the law made by the General Court exists, there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law abiding citizen. Those citizens who

feel that the oath is not necessary, can have recourse to the constitutional method of changing the law.

### Oath Justified

"Concerning the necessity of this law at present, that depends on the facts which seemed to justify the General Court in passing this law and the ability as well as the willingness of educational authorities to handle the situation without the aid of special legislation. Concerning the observance of the law itself, I can see no objection to any educator taking an oath which obligates him only to the performance of what is a clear duty—an oath similar in most respects to that taken by lawyers and by many public officials in the State."

The Commissioner said he would have no further statement to make at this time. Among those to greet him was Representative Thomas Dorgan of Dorchester, who filed the teachers' oath bill adopted by the Legislature.

### No One Indispensable

The Governor took a fling at Smith and the Smith supporters when at the Reardon ceremonies he said, referring to Smith, "no one is absolutely indispensable." Turning to Reardon the Governor said, "I appreciate that the education of your predecessor was no greater than yours. If we all were to drop dead tomorrow other men and women would take our places who are even better qualified to take over the work than we ever could be. This applies to the Education Department as well as any other place. You have a real opportunity and I am confident that you will discharge it. I repeat, that we sometimes ourselves think we are indispensable. I repeat that there is no one, who is absolutely indispensable."

Although Smith supporters, including hundreds of teachers and school superintendents, are raging at the ousting from office of their idol, Smith has yet made no statement concerning Curley's action. He may make a statement later.



**EAGLE**  
Pittsfield, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1935

## CURLEY THWARTED

Most reasonable people thought, that with all Governor Curley's political machinations, he would have the decency, not to say the rationality, to keep the educational system out of politics. The delay in action on filling the post of Commissioner of Education, after many a non-partisan group had petitioned the Governor for the re-appointment of Dr. Payson Smith, had caused many people to think that, after all, better judgment was coming to the fore in the Governor's mind. But not at all. Out goes Mr. Smith, a non-political educational leader with a national reputation, and into office comes a purely political appointee. This is not to say that Mr. Reardon does not have qualifications for the job. That remains to be seen. But it is known that whatever educational qualifications he may have, more important he has political qualifications.

One might have had a little more respect for the Governor if he had said plainly and openly, "Dr. Smith is an appointment of another administration and thus can do me no possible good politically. Therefore, self-preservation being the first law, I feel I should throw him out. I am sorry but that is the way the game is played."

But he didn't do that. With disgusting sham, the Governor personally submitted the name of Dr. Smith to the Council. And was his face red when that body turned him down. He is laughing in embarrassment and hurt pride yet. And imagine the Governor's surprise and astonishment when a member of his Council introduced and voted favorably on Mr. Reardon. It must have been a bomb-shell for good old Jim, bless his heart.

And behind it all, the people of this Commonwealth have to thank a political gentleman by the name of Joshua Arthur Baker, now of the Superior Court bench. It will take a good many years for the people to forget that deal and what it is doing to the cause of good government in Massachusetts.

## Press Clipping Service

2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

Journal

Providence, R. I.

DEC 19 1935

# F. T. Openshaw is Confirmed As Deputy Tax Assessor

SERVES IN INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT

## Executive Council Names

James G. Reardon to  
Education Post

F. T. OPENSHAW



Fall River Man Whose Appointment as Deputy Tax Assessor is Confirmed.

(Special to the Providence Journal)  
State House, Boston, Mass., Dec. 18.

The Executive Council today approved the appointment by Tax Commissioner Henry F. Long of Frederick T. Openshaw, 344 Sprague street, Fall River, as a deputy tax assessor in the State Income Tax Division. Openshaw, who is commander of the State Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, is one of three new deputy tax assessors appointed by Commissioner Long.

Governor James M. Curley appointed and the Executive Council confirmed John Sullivan of Fall River as deputy pilot commissioner, District No. 4. He succeeds D. Gardiner O'Keefe.

By record vote, six to three, along straight party lines, the Executive Council confirmed Governor Curley's appointment of Augustine J. Lawlor of Lawrence as a member of the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, succeeding William Hardie of Fall River. Governor Curley submitted the Lawlor appointment to the council Nov. 27, but it was held over by that body until today. It is understood the reason for the delay in taking action on the appointment was the receipt of a communication by the Executive Council that Lawlor had not been in business a sufficient number of years to qualify him as a member of the board. The council, however, confirmed Lawlor today and he took the oath of office immediately before Governor Curley.

By roll call vote, five to four, with Lieutenant Governor Joseph L. Hurley voting with the three Republicans, the Executive Council today refused to confirm Governor Curley's re-appointment of Payson Smith as Commissioner of Education. The Lieutenant Governor voted with his Democratic colleagues to confirm James G. Reardon of Adams by record vote six to three to the education post. The salary is \$9000 a year for a term of five years.



## Press Clipping Service

2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

Journal  
Providence, R. I.

DEC 19 1935

ate

## CURLEY'S COUNCIL OUSTS DR. SMITH

Names of J. G. Reardon to Be  
Education Commissioner  
in Massachusetts.

### VOTE IS ON PARTY LINES

Action Follows Months of Con-  
tinuous Agitation to Rename  
Veteran Education Chief

Boston, Dec. 18.—(AP)—In five minutes today, Dr. Payson Smith was ousted as State Commissioner of Education after almost two decades of service and a dark horse among those mentioned to succeed him was appointed and confirmed.

After months of continuous agitation from teachers to reappoint Dr. Smith, who is 63, Governor James M. Curley submitted his name to the executive council. It was rejected 5 to 4.

The Governor immediately offered the name of James G. Reardon, 36-year-old superintendent of schools in Adams, and the council just as quickly confirmed him as commissioner. The vote was 6 to 3, strictly on party lines.

Among numerous candidates mentioned as possible successors to Dr. Smith, Reardon had received no special notice or support until last night, when a majority of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation indorsed him. A minority favored Dr. Smith's retention.

#### Supports Oath Act

Reardon styled himself a "100 per cent. supporter" of the controversial Massachusetts Teachers' Oath Act, while Dr. Smith originally opposed it.

Reardon's term of office is five years and his salary \$9000.

While rejecting Dr. Smith's reappointment, the council did confirm reappointment of two other State officials named before Governor Curley was elected.

One was Henry F. Long, State Commissioner of Taxation and Corporations, in public service for many years. He was reappointed for a term of three years, at a salary of \$7500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31-year-old Commissioner of Public Safety, appointed by Governor Curley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely. He will serve five years at \$6000 annually.

Reardon, a Legionnaire, was graduated in 1923 from Boston College and studied later at Harvard and Boston Universities.

He has been superintendent at Adams for a year, going there after serving in the same capacity at East Bridgewater for eight years. He also had taught at East Bridgewater high school, and was principal for a year.

The council again deferred action on the Governor's appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as Commissioner of Agriculture.

## Press Clipping Service

2 Park Square  
Boston Mass.

Press Herald  
Portland, Me.

DEC 19 1935

ate

## Dr. Payson Smith Ousted As Head Of Bay State Schools

### Reardon Is Appointed To Post Of Former Maine Superintendent

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After months of continuous agitation from teachers to reappoint Dr. Smith, who is 63, Gov. James M. Curley submitted his name to the executive council, which rejected the nomination, 5 to 4.

Smith served as state superintendent of schools in Maine before coming to Massachusetts.

The Governor immediately offered the name of James G. Reardon, 36-

London, Dec. 18.—(UP)—British Foreign Secretary Sir Samuel Hoare, co-author of the Hoare-Laval peace plan to settle the Italo-Ethiopian war by giving Italy half of Ethiopia, resigned tonight.

It was reported reliably that Sir Samuel resigned because of differences in the cabinet over the speech he is to make in the House of Commons foreign policy debate Thursday, when he was to have gone before the House to face a promised hammering from critics in all parties. A Laborite resolution of censure was ready for voting.

As result of Sir Samuel's resignation, Lord Winterton announced amendment of the Laborite resolution, changing it to read:

"This house, holding any terms for settlement of the Italo-Ethiopian dispute should be such as the League can accept, assures his Majesty's government of full support in pursuing the foreign policy outlined in the government manifesto and endorsed by the country in the recent general election."

The amendment is inspired by the government and the resolution, as altered, will have full support of the 247 Baldwin majority.

It was understood Sir Samuel would attend Commons Thursday in his capacity as private member and would make a statement of his personal position.

## Smith Ousted As Head Of Bay State Schools

Continued From Page One

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## MEMORIAL

Plymouth, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

ver's Pharmacy.

## Gov. Curley Here For Succotash

Assurance that Gov. James M. Curley will join the members of the Old Colony Club at a succotash dinner to be served Saturday night, Forefather's Day, in commemoration of the Landing of the Pilgrims, has been received here.

This is an annual event on the calendar of the local club which is reputed as being the oldest Club in America.

## NEWS

Quincy, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Governor's 'Stage Play' Draws Fire From Grossman

"I don't believe that the people will be fooled by the Governor's stage play," said Governor's Councillor Joseph B. Grossman of Quincy today.

"In referring to the Governor's part in ousting Payson Smith, Commissioner of Education."

The Governor at the Council Meeting yesterday announced to the press that he would renominate Dr. Smith as Commissioner of Education.

"If, however," said the Governor, "the Council should not take favorable action on Dr. Smith, I shall submit the name of James G. Reardon."

After voting down the Smith appointment the Council then voted to suspend the rules. Ordinarily a nomination is put over for a week. Suspension of the rules made it possible for the Council to act at once on the Reardon appointment.

Councillor Grossman voted to confirm Smith and voted against the confirmation of his successor. In a statement of protest against "the Governor's political comedy," he said,

"If the Governor had really wanted to retain Smith," said Grossman, "the Democratic members of the Council would have voted to confirm him — just as they have done in the case of absolutely every one of the Governor's appointments right up until now."

"I don't believe that the people will be fooled by the Governor's stage play. After sitting in caucus for over an hour with the Democratic council members, the Governor then comes into the meeting

and announces that he is reappointing Commissioner Smith. Whereupon the Democratic Council members voted to reject him.

"For my part, I consider at unfortunate that an able man like Payson Smith should have been removed from the important office of Commissioner of Education. This was too serious an appointment to be made the subject of one of the Governor's political comedies."

Press Clipping Service  
2 Park Square  
BOSTON MASS.

## JOURNAL

Revere, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# Governor Wants Time To Study Transit Merger

## MAYOR O'BRIEN AT PUBLIC UTILITIES TO LEARN STATUS

### Consolidation Plea Taken Month Ago Under Advisement

The consolidation of the Chelsea division of the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway company with the Boston Elevated was taken under advisement by the Public Utilities commission more than a month ago. The details of the plan were being discussed for months before that.

On this consolidation, depends Revere's hoped-for 10 cent fare to all parts of Boston, and the granting of permission by the commission is the last step to the effecting of the merger.

Yet, the Governor feels that he needs more time in which to study the matter, as is revealed by the following communication from Mayor O'Brien:

In reference to the consolidation of the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway company, Chelsea division, and the Boston Elevated Railway company, I beg to make the following statement, so as to inform you, the citizens of Revere, as to just

what has happened; and what you might expect in the near future in regard to your wishes in this matter.

On Wednesday, November 13, we appeared before the Department of Public Utilities, and there presented our case, which according to the Acts of 1932, under which we are operating in the so-called consolidation, was the last step that we had to take in order to bring about this consolidation. After the hearing was concluded, the Commission of the Department of Public Utilities took it under advisement, and we have been expecting them to make a decision momentarily. Upon inquiry as to the delay in making their decision, we find that the Governor and his councillors have asked for further time to study the matter.

I feel sure that these public officials of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will do nothing to interfere with the struggle of our people for better transportation, lasting over a quarter of a century. For this reason it is only right and proper that we give them a reasonable time in which to make known their decision.

All I can ask you to do is to be patient and wait, and rest assured that, if necessary, we are ready and in a position to further press the consolidation, which we know will be of tremendous benefit to our city.

(Signed) JAMES M. O'BRIEN,  
Mayor.



DEC 19 1935

## THE EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT-L. R. H.

Contributions and Comment Welcomed

### REVERE THE GOAT

"—the Governor and his counselors have asked for further time to study the matter."

This was Mayor O'Brien's finding this week when he went to ask what was delaying the Public Utilities commission—why the commission, after entertaining the matter for several weeks, had not granted permission for the merging of the Chelsea division of the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway company and the Boston Elevated.

This merging will mean a 10-cent fare for Revere people to all parts of Boston. While the Governor "studies" the matter, Revere people shiver in the cold in Chelsea square, wait around at Haymarket, and pay 20 cents before they arrive at their Boston destinations.

"Study the matter"! ! ! Is not 35 years, during which Revere has been agitating for a break, not long enough time in which to "study the matter"?

J-H-W, jr.

### ONE OF THE GREATEST CRIMES

One of the greatest crimes committed in recent years by the politicians of the State of Massachusetts is the way in which the people of Revere and Chelsea have been "tossed around" on the subject of the draw bridge over the Mystic river leading into Boston. It took a Catholic Polish priest of Chelsea to start agitation for action—real action as to why this drawbridge is still closed to traffic. Just take a ride over the really beautiful, spacious General Edwards bridge at the Point of Pines. It will give you an inkling of what could have been done regarding the antique bridge which the mayor of Boston, Frederick W. Mansfield took one look at and ordered closed. Ordering a bridge closed is easy but finding a way for working men and women to get to and from their work with the minimum of trouble and expense is the hard part. Why not give Revere and Chelsea people who work in Boston a Christmas present and open this bridge to street cars at least so that the standing in the winter weather at Chelsea and Haymarket squares will be eliminated.

J. O'B.

### PLEASANT STREET SLIPPING?

Pleasant street, the "Beacon Hill of Revere," and the citadel of the anti-dog track element, seems to be slipping.

On this street, there lives a pleasant lady, known equally for her gentle but determined character, her unstinted labor in charitable causes and her consistent opposition to all forms of gambling institutions, es-

pecially the local dog tracks.

Sensational was the reaction at a card party this week at her home when she opened and used for the first time some fine playing cards given her for Christmas two years ago. The cards bore pictures of racing dogs!

J-H-W., Jr.

**THE LIMIT**—As if it wasn't enough that the people of Massachusetts, most of whom cannot afford it, are gambling away millions of dollars annually, here comes a newly-formed "Council For Legalizing Lotteries," headed by a Back Bay socialite, to propagandize for "legalized" lotteries and sweepstakes. The promoter moralizes:

"Hardly a day goes by but what we read about some new lottery, some of them under the sponsorship of churches. But many of them are being run by racketeers.

"With the present heavy taxation and the millions of dollars going out of this State to foreign lotteries, we felt it was about time that somebody started a move to keep that money in this State and bring about a reduction in taxation.

"I have always been interested in hospital work and I feel strongly about the present situation, in which we cannot raise adequate funds for hospitals and charities. American money should be kept at home. Why, if lotteries were legalized here and the State got a proportion of the money contributed, taxation could be lessened. As it is now, the tax burden keeps mounting.

"Lotteries have been running wild in this State, but they have been in the hands of racketeers. I think that they need some supervision and our organization is designed to furnish information to the citizens of the State. We will furnish that information, good and bad, about lotteries and let the people decide."

My candid opinion is that a keener interest should be taken by everyone, who realizes the extent of gambling and the magnitude of the moral and financial cost, to co-operate with law-enforcement agencies in their efforts to stop this terrible drain on the purse of a something-for-nothing mad people.

Experience proves that legalizing horse and dog race betting has resulted in a host of new illegal "rackets," which have netted the "bookies" millions, and brought the state nothing. Let there be an organized movement to show the "suckers" the foolishness of trying to beat professional gamblers, and to assist in enforcement of present laws against lotteries, rather than to further "let down the bars."

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NEWS

Salem, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Topsfield—

Say Road Program Will Be Sponsored by WPA, Not a Curley Bond Issue; Notes of Legion and Auxiliary

Topsfield, Dec. 19—As soon as the WPA releases the necessary funds, the state department of public works will set in motion the extensive farm-to-market roads improvement program planned throughout the county, it was announced by the Beverly office of the state department today. The belief exists in many communities that the money to be used will come from Gov. Curley's \$13,000,000 bond issue, but Beverly office authorities declared the by the federal government under the WPA. The state department will act as general sponsor of the work.

Officials are still thrashing out the regulations to be observed in the employment of workers. Although the restrictions governing other WPA projects will apply, some of the rulings will probably have to be expanded a bit because of the unusual situations that will be created in the small towns, where there will not be nearly enough jobless to man the undertakings. Laborers will have to be imported from other towns and cities and the question arises as to whether local men will be given first preference. While it is reported the latter plan will be adopted and unemployed in the community where the work is to be done will be hired and the outsiders brought in to fill out the list, there is also a chance that large crews will be organized from a number of places and moved en masse to the scene of projects. This system, which might be deemed the most efficient and practical, would probably leave many local laborers out in the cold.

About eight miles of back roads are scheduled to be gravelled, widened, straightened and levelled in Topsfield. The complete list of highways here listed for repairs follows—Averill street, Bare Hill road, Camp Meeting road, Coppermine road, East street, Boardman lane, Gardner street, Mill street, Howlett street, Meetinghouse road, North street, River street, Rowley Bridge road and Rowley road. Even some of the natives will have difficulty trying to remember where some of these thoroughfares are, or were. Several are known to be overgrown with brush and weeds and are all but inaccessible but before the workmen get through they will be in first-class condition, wide enough to allow plows to break them out in winter.



NEWS  
Salem, Mass.  
DEC 19 1935

## Democrats Hit By Mayor Bates And Sen. Parkman

Salem Executive Tells Wenham Audience Relief Funds Spent for Political Purposes; See Return C. O. P.

Wenham, Dec. 19—"No one objects to the expenditures of government funds for the relief of suffering, but what the people of Massachusetts have little use for is the blanket appropriation of millions of dollars, the greater part of which is being used for political purposes," declared Mayor George J. Bates of Salem before some 200 members of the Hamilton-Wenham Men's Republican club gathered for the annual Ladies' Night of that organization held in the Wenham Town hall last evening.

"The future is dark enough in this state with industries moving to other localities and shutting down through inability to cope with the tremendous odds of today, and the problem of caring for the unemployed is serious enough without having a group in control on Beacon Hill who are pursuing a policy of reckless extravagance, mortgaging the future not for permanent improvements, but to meet current expenses," stated the Mayor, who gave a long list of figures to show the tremendous increase in relief costs in Massachusetts during a decade when industrial payrolls, the lifeblood of this section, were steadily being curtailed, thereby throwing

### The Additional Burden

upon the real estate owner.

"The present leaders on Beacon Hill, in an effort to cover their wild spending orgy, are utilizing every possible means of revenue. Chief among these is the gas tax, a fund which has in the past been of great assistance to the local communities, the loss of which will necessitate additional burdens for the cities and towns. These, when piled upon the additions in the direct state tax levy upon the cities and towns will become an appreciable increase in local tax rates in the years that lie ahead.

"The only hope for the future lies in a return to a policy of conservative expenditure and a 'Pay as you go' program—that sound Yankee philosophy that carried this state to its strong financial position during a long line of Republican governors and which was instrumental in cutting the public debt from 40 millions in 1918 to 10 millions in 1930.

"Relief is distinctly a local problem, and should be met as such," declared Mayor Bates in closing, and he cited numerous examples to show how the tangled skein of government red tape under the present relief set-up was depriving worthy men of jobs, and giving preference to persons much less entitled to assistance.

"It is nothing new for the elec-

torate of this country to turn to the Republican party to save it from the Ravages of Extravagance

and maladjustment brought on by the Democrats," declared Senator Henry Parkman of Boston, the first speaker on the evening program. "Furthermore, it is not unusual for the leading opposition to national policies to originate in Massachusetts and in Essex county," he added, and to prove this statement, the prominent Bostonian read excerpts from historical documents to show how in the time of Thomas Jefferson, the citizens of this locality vigorously opposed to the point of threatened secession, the Embargo Acts of 1814 which were stifling the life and industry of local merchants and ship owners.

Between those days and the present situation there is a striking parallel, and the results shown in the recent elections and in the Literary Digest poll show that the militant spirit and independence of New England is once again asserting itself.

Of the state government, the Senator merely prophesized that Curleyism was fast killing itself off by its own viciousness in national politics, however, there is still a bitter fight ahead for those who believe in sound economics and good government.

"Yet because of the falaciousness of the New Deal policies which seek to create a scarcity both in agriculture and in manufactured products in the face of extreme want, and to force prices artificially upward at a time when purchasing power is at its lowest ebb, there is a slow, but constantly increasing opposition arising among the thinking voters of the nation.

"When President Roosevelt in the early days of his terms declared in his customary disarming manner that he was beginning an experiment and would be the first to abandon his policies that proved unworkable, he was making another promise which he never could keep. So far has the administration gone with these

### Experimental Plans

by now that it can not turn back, and it must go to the voters next fall pledged to support a continuance of these measures.

"As the country gradually comes to a realization of the simple arithmetical truths that make the whole reasoning behind the New Deal fundamentally unsound, and that the only true path to recovery is through the adoption of a directly opposite policy, then will the party of conservatism be returned to control, declared Senator Parkman. He then quoted figures to show the extent to which the New Deal with its daily expenditures running approximately 10 million dollars in excess of its daily revenues was heading for disaster,—disaster that would be forestalled by utilizing the nation's credit to the utmost and by reverting to printing press money, but increasingly severe the longer it was held off by such means.

"A sound program calling for a balanced budget, and the adoption of policies stressing increased consumption rather than artificial curtailment must be Republicanism's answer to condition in Washington today. Such a program will determine the campaign and election in the year that lies ahead," declared Senator Parkman in closing.

Selectman Samuel S. Conary of Wenham, president of the Hamilton-Wenham Republican club introduced the speakers at last evening's meeting, and a feature of the program was the fine musical numbers furnished by Lewis's Moonlight Hawaiians.

NEWS  
Salem, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Salem Murderer May Get Freedom From Gov. Council

(Special to The News)

State House, Boston, Dec. 18—Gov. James M. Curley today announced that he would request the executive council for commutation of the life sentence of William Biros of Salem. The latter was sentenced in Essex County superior court in Salem on April 20, 1920, for the murder of Mary Blanche Lavoie. Gov. Curley said he



WILLIAM BIROS  
Who May Get Freedom

would ask the council to commute the sentence to 20 years, with the understanding that Biros would be deported to Poland, his birthplace, upon release.

Biros was arrested Dec. 13, 1918, by Officer John C. Murphy, for the second degree murder of Miss Lavoie. At that time he was 29 years of age. Miss Lavoie spurned his attentions and he shot her as she walked along Hawthorne boulevard. The girl had been to a dance.



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NEWS  
Salem, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Reardon Succeeds Payson Smith as Education Comr.

Superintendent of Schools in  
Adams Confirmed by the  
Executive Council After  
Smith Was Turned Down

Boston, Dec. 19 (P)—A 36-year-old Boston college graduate, James G. Reardon, succeeded Dr. Payson Smith as state commissioner of education today.

Reardon was nominated and confirmed 6-3 by the executive council yesterday after the council had rejected Gov. James M. Curley's re-nomination of Dr. Smith 5-4. He will receive \$9000 per year.

On the vote of Dr. Smith's re-nomination Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley joined the Republican members in voting to retain the veteran commissioner of 20 years' standing. However, when Curley then submitted Reardon's name, Hurley voted for his confirmation.

Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, has called himself a "100 per cent, supporter" of the teacher's oath law. Dr. Smith originally opposed it.

The council reappointed Henry F. Long as state commissioner of taxation and corporations and Paul G. Kirk as commissioner of public safety. Action was deferred on the appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.

Curley said he was undecided about reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney as director of the division of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman as commissioner of correction and Major George J. Cronin as state purchasing agent.

The terms of Kenney and Lyman expired Dec. 1 and Cronin's term ended Dec. 13.

Press Clipping Service  
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ADVOCATE  
Stanford, Ct.

DEC 19 1935

## Boston Mayor Is Under Fire



The resignation of Mayor Fredrick W. Mansfield (above), as mayor of Boston, was demanded by Governor James M. Curley, in a furious dispute over the conduct of the Massachusetts metropolis' affairs. Curley charged Mansfield with incompetence, while Mansfield attributed his difficulties to the debt accumulated while Curley was mayor.

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NEWS  
Southbridge, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## REARDON CHOICE IS TARGET OF ATTACK

Bowker Charges Curley  
With an Attempt To  
'Save His Face'

By United Press

BOSTON, Dec. 19—James Gerard Reardon, 35-year-old small-town school superintendent, today took the oath as State Education commissioner—one of the youngest men in the United States to hold such an office.

The oath was administered by Gov. James M. Curley.

Special Correspondence

BOSTON, Dec. 19 — Opponents of Gov. James M. Curley today regarded his appointment of James G. Reardon of Adams as State Commissioner of Education as a move by the Governor to "save his face."

Meanwhile, persons close to the Governor said he intended to re-nominate Dr. Payson Smith and did so notwithstanding information given to him at a caucus of Democratic Councilors that they would reject the nomination.

Dr. Smith's nomination was rejected, 5-4, at the voting of the Governor's Council yesterday. Mr. Reardon then was confirmed, 6-3, with Lieut.-Gov. Joseph L. Hurley voting for him.

Councilor Winfield A. Schuster and Rep. Philip G. Bowker were especially vigorous in their attacks on the confirmation yesterday.

Mr. Schuster asserted "the whole thing was cut and dried." He said the vote of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation, favoring Mr. Reardon, had been engineered by the Governor and the nomination of Mr. Smith meant nothing.

Rep. Bowker described the attempt of Gov. Curley to have Dr. Smith approved as a "bluff." He said the Governor, "by trying to save his face has stooped to tactics of the lowest sort and has only shown himself up."

While the ousting of Dr. Smith, who held the post for 19 years, was attacked, praise greeted the reappointment of Public Safety Commissioner Paul G. Kirk and Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation, Henry F. Long.



DEC 19 1935

# Teachers Denounce Dropping Smith, as Blow to Education

## RESULT OF DEAL BETWEEN CURLEY AND COUNCILORS

So Observers Declare — Action Thought Arranged at Earlier Meeting

## LONG AND KIRK ARE REAPPOINTED

Corporations and Public Safety Chiefs O. K'd — Curley Would Free 249 Prisoners for Christmas

From Our Special Reporter.

Boston, Dec. 18—That James G. Reardon, formerly superintendent of the Adams schools, is the new commissioner of education for Massachusetts, as the result of deals between Gov Curley and the executive councilors of his party, is the generally accepted belief in "wise" circles to-night.

This was the outstanding development of today's council meeting—the defeat of Dr Payson Smith, when he was reappointed by the governor, and the immediate submission of Reardon's name, which was confirmed, under suspension of rules, by vote of 6 to 3, on straight party lines. Dr Smith had been rejected by vote of 5 to 4, Lieut-Gov Joseph L. Hurley voting with the three Republicans for his confirmation.

### No Comment From Smith

Dr Smith said tonight that he had no comment to make at present on the proceedings of the council this afternoon.

Gov Curley, explaining the council's vote on the Smith reappointment,

*Called From Adams  
By Curley to Lead  
Education in State*



JAMES G. REARDON

said: "I conferred with the Democratic members of the council concerning the Smith appointment before the council session, and with the exception of the lieutenant-governor, they were all opposed to Mr Smith."

Henry F. Long was reappointed state commissioner of corporations and taxation and Col Paul G. Kirk was reappointed state commissioner of public safety, and both were confirmed unanimously.

Gov Curley announced that Correction Commissioner Arthur T. Lyman had authorized the release of 200 inmates of the Bridgewater State farm for Christmas, practically all of them incarcerated for drunkenness. He also plans to free 20 women from Sherborn women's reformatory, similarly committed, the governor

said. Further, the state board of parole will release 15 first offenders from Concord reformatory, and 14 more will be freed before January 31. Custom forbids publication of their names.

The governor asked the executive council to extend clemency to five other prisoners, two of them "lifers," by commuting their sentences, which would make them eligible for parole. The council referred them to its pardons committee which will act on them at a meeting at 10 Monday, after which the council will hold a special session to act.

Other appointments made today were: Daniel J. Kiley of Adams as clerk of the Adams district court, vice Edwin K. McPeck of Adams;

Albert Ward of Canton, reappointed clerk of the district court at Stoughton, who was confirmed.

The "lifers" recommended for executive clemency by the governor today are: Samuel Powers of Westfield, sentenced to life imprisonment in Hampden superior court at Springfield on February 20, 1914, for murder of his wife, the recommendation being to commute the sentence to one of 20 years.

Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in Essex superior court April 20, 1920, to life for murder of Mary B. Lavoie, the recommendation being to commute the sentence to one of 20 years, with the understanding he will be deported to his native Poland.

The other three concerned in the governor's clemency recommendations are:—

which is \$500 less than received this year. William Hooper of Lynn, sentenced in Essex superior court March 24, 1933, to six to seven years for manslaughter, the recommendation, that the sentence be commuted to one of three to seven years.

Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in Worcester superior court February 27, 1932 to 10 to 12 years for burning a building, the recommendation, for commutation of sentence to one of four to 12 years.

Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge, sentenced in Middlesex superior court June 19, 1929 to serve 12 to 20 years for manslaughter, upon being convicted of shooting Dominic Somerelli. Governor recommended commutation of sentence to one of seven to 20 years.

*Continued*



### Salaries

Commissioner Kirk took oath of office from the governor at once. His salary is \$6000 a year and his appointment for a term of five years.

The salary of the commissioner of education is \$9000 a year and term of office is five years. Dr Smith was elected commissioner of education by the state board of education in 1916 during the term of Samuel W. McCall as governor. When the state departments were organized four years later, the appointment as educational commissioner was given to the governor and council and he had been reappointed and confirmed ever since.

The salary of the tax commissioner is \$7500 and the term of office is three years.

Gov Curley announced, before the council convened, that he would reappoint Dr Smith, and that if the council rejected him he would submit Reardon's name. Inasmuch as he had conferred with Democratic councilors prior to the meeting, and it was made known later that the five members had told him they would not vote for Smith's confirmation, the nomination was submitted with the knowledge that it would be rejected and that Reardon would be nominated and confirmed.

The council also approved appointments of three new deputy income tax assessors in the state division of income tax, reputedly made by Commissioner Long. They are:

Festus M. Flaherty of Boston, Frederick T. Openshaw of Fall River, and John F. Kelley of Medford, all confirmed, 6 to 3.

After the council session, the governor administered the oath to Augustine J. Lawlor of Lawrence, who was confirmed today as member of the board of registration in pharmacy by vote of 6 to 3, succeeding William Hardie of Fall River, for whose retention a fight had been made.

Action on the governor's appointment of Howard Haines Murphy of Osterville to be state commissioner of agriculture, to succeed Edgar H. Gillett of Canton, formerly of Westfield was tabled for the third time, to come up for action next week.

Other appointments made today included pilot commissioners in several districts, several minor appointments and Arthur J. O'Neil of Quincy as stenographer in the executive department.

### After Civil War Claim

Francis R. Mullin, Boston attorney, was authorized by the council to act to have Congress pass legislation authorizing him, as agent of the commonwealth, to prosecute its claim of \$233,885.82 against the federal government for money which Massachusetts spent at the request of the President during the Civil war in protecting harbors and fortifying the coast. Councilors Brooks and Schuster voted against this authorization.

Mullin is to get 10 per cent commission on what he recovers. He told the council that under Eben S. Draper as governor, a commonwealth agent recovered \$886,389.68 and got a 10 per cent commission. At that time, Mullin said, the commonwealth was unable to recover for the harbor protection and fortifications, getting reimbursement only for furnishing state troops for national service during that war.

The council approved a transfer of \$8282.08 from the extraordinary fund to cover a shortage in the trustee fund, made up of funds of state prisoners, resulting from closing of the Charlestown Trust company, where the inmates' money was deposited. With the bank's closing, the fund shortage was about \$11,000 but dividends from liquidation of assets have reduced it to the above amount. As future dividends are paid, refunds will be made to the extraordinary fund. The transfer was approved, 8 to 1. Councilor Brooks voting in the negative. Need of making up the

shortage is due to the proposed release of prisoners who have money coming to them.

The council today approved the contract granted by the public works department to Merritt, Chapman & Scott corporation of New London, Ct., to reconstruct platforms at Commonwealth Pier 5 at a cost of \$717,940.

## Reardon Leaves for Hub; May Be Sworn Today

Adams, Dec. 18—James Girard Reardon, superintendent of schools in Adams since July, and today appointed state commissioner of education by Gov Curley, left shortly after 8 tonight with Mrs Reardon for Boston and Medway, the home of his parents, Mr and Mrs W. H. Reardon. He expects to be sworn into office tomorrow. Members of his family at Medway were expecting him tonight.

Mr Reardon, a native of Medway, is 35. He succeeded Henry L. Cecil as superintendent of the Adams schools in June and came to Adams the following month. He is a member of St Thomas's church, the American Legion, the Knights of Columbus, the New England Superintendents' association, the Massachusetts Superintendents' association, the national science and national mathematic groups, the University club, South Shore Schoolman's club. Since moving to Adams he has made a host of friends and has been in constant demand as a public speaker.

Mr Reardon graduated from Boston college with the class of 1923. He was an honor student and a member of the varsity football team, graduating with degrees of A. B. and A. M. His graduate work was done at Boston college, Boston university and Harvard university. He is a veteran of the World war. Soon after 1923 he became assistant principal of the East Bridgewater high school, later becoming principal there and subsequently superintendent of schools at East Bridgewater.

### Has Four Children

While teaching in East Bridgewater Mr Reardon married Anita Thorndyke, a daughter of Judge Hubert C. Thorndyke of Brockton, who was an influential Democrat until the time of his death. They have four children, Rose Mary, 15 months, Susan, three, James G., Jr., five, and Cynthia, six. The Reardons live on B street in a comfortable home with a Great Dane dog, Donnie, as pet of the children and friend of his adult caretakers. Mr Reardon is more than six feet tall, has a decided liking for dark suits and is clean shaven. His hobbies include golf, and other forms of athletics.

Mr Reardon's father will be 80 next April. He is employed at the Sabyan Woll company factory in Medford and also conducts an insurance business, and is very active. The local man's mother is 78 and interested in affairs of her family. Family members declare that the newly appointed commissioner is a "fiend" for checkers and dominoes. He has brothers, William A. Reardon, and inspector of motor vehicles for the state at Medford, John J., and Louis J., the latter being associated with a business concern at Boston. His parents were the first couple to be married at St Joseph's church at Medway, in 1886.

## 'Calamity' Has 'Undermined' Teaching, Views at Smith

Northampton, Dec. 18—The following was the reaction of educators at Smith college today to the appointment of James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, to displace Dr Payson Smith as state commissioner of education:—

President William A. Neilson: "The failure to reappoint Dr Payson Smith is, in my opinion, a calamity for the interests of education in Massachusetts. His service has not only been long and faithful but highly intelligent. It is extremely unfortunate that for reasons which one can only suppose to be political, the commonwealth should be deprived of services of so great value as those of Dr Smith."

Prof S. Ralph Harlow of department of religion and biblical literature: "No political act in my years of experience as a teacher has so undermined respect for the state as has the teachers' oath bill. The teachers of this state have been almost a unit in indorsing Payson Smith as commissioner of education, partly because he was courageous enough to oppose the present administration's attacks on the teachers."

"Gov Curley has put in his place a man supporting patriotism by compulsion. Unfortunately, little else could have been expected. The teachers, however, in this state outnumber by a good majority the members of the American Legion. The fight to repeal this undemocratic piece of legislation will continue in spite of the appointment of a commissioner who favors it."

Harold U. Falkner of the department of history expressed disappointment in the appointment of Mr Reardon. "If the recent statement of Robert J. Watt, secretary-treasurer of the State Federation of Labor, that the new commissioner is 100 per cent in favor of the teachers' oath bill, is true, then I agree with him that this alone should disqualify him for the post of commissioner of education."

Elliott M. Grant of the French department stated "The appointment is most unfortunate if Mr Reardon is in support of the teachers' oath bill."

## No Comments Made At Mass. State College

Amherst, Dec. 18—Dr Hugh P. Baker, president of Massachusetts State college, had no statement to make today on the appointment of James G. Reardon of Adams as state commissioner of education. The faculty of the college has unanimously signed the teachers' oath, and no faculty member has openly voiced opposition to the oath.

*concluded*



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**REPUBLICAN**  
Springfield, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## MANY EDUCATORS OF CITY AND AREA ATTACK SITUATION

Neilson, Granrud, Glickman,  
McGown and Others Hit  
Act of Governor, Council

## ILL FEELING NOT AIMED AT NEW COMMISSIONER

But All Assail Failure to Re-  
appoint Dr Smith, See  
Children's Welfare Wan-  
tonly Sacrificed

Educators throughout Western Massachusetts last night protested vigorously against the failure to reappoint Dr Payson Smith commissioner of education. Leaders in schools and colleges expressed keen disappointment at the action of the governor and his council in passing over Dr Smith. The consensus was that Massachusetts has suffered an irreparable educational loss and that the welfare of the children has been sacrificed to politics.

Though few commented directly on the appointment of James G. Reardon of Adams as Dr Smith's successor, they voiced regret that a supporter of the teacher's oath bill which has met with opposition by teachers in all parts of the state should head the department of education.

### "Calamity" to Dr Neilson

President William A. Neilson of Smith college regards the situation as "a calamity for the interests of education in Massachusetts." Prof S. Ralph Harlow of the Smith faculty expressed the opinion that the teachers of the state will continue to fight for the repeal of the oath bill in spite of the appointment of a commissioner supporting "patriotism by compulsion."

### Granrud Stunned by News

Superintendent of Schools John Granrud, who seemed almost stunned by the news, said: "For years Dr Payson Smith has been recognized as one of the 10 foremost public school educators in the country. Despite rumors to the contrary, until today no one could convince me that Gov Curley would remove him

from the office he has held with such distinction for 16 years for no good reason at all. I'm not so concerned about Dr Smith. He can easily take care of himself. I am, however, concerned over the fact that his removal means that the educational welfare of every child in this commonwealth has been sacrificed."

### Glickman, McGovern Disappointed

Dr Alfred M. Glickman, head of the school board, after saying that he spoke as an individual and not as a representative of the board of education, said: "I do not know Mr Reardon. I wish him lots of luck. But I am very sorry we are losing one of the most outstanding authorities in education in Dr Smith. I be-

## N. Y. Catholic Archbishop Declares His Opponents Are Blind to Moral Issue in Contraception

New York, Dec. 18—(AP)—Patrick Cardinal Hayes, archbishop of New York, today in a statement reaffirmed that the practice of birth control involves the danger of race suicide.

Replying to 13 clergymen who had answered his previous statement on the subject, the cardinal expressed surprise "that a group of professed leaders of religious thought should make the sole test of the desirability of any program or policy a utilitarian one, leaving out of all consideration any question of the moral values involved."

He added: "It is equally surprising that these same religious leaders seem to have set aside belief in the God of revelation, the God of the ages, substituting a vague and elusive God of evolution, and to have relegated holy scripture to a land of 'myth and legend.'"

The statement issued on Sunday by the 13 clergymen had protested against Cardinal Hayes's original statement, asserting it was improper for him to attempt to impose upon other Americans the beliefs and practices of the Catholic church and adding that the cardinal's claim that birth control is contrary to the demand of the deity "is true if we mean that God is found in ancient myth and legend."

The primate said today that "the essence of my Sunday sermon was that contraception is morally wrong, that it contravenes moral law. A careful scrutiny of the rejoinder from the 13 clergymen reveals no slightest recognition even of the existence of such a thing as a moral law."

## TEACHERS DENOUNCE DROPPING SMITH, AS BLOW TO EDUCATION

(Continued from First Page)

lieve it indicates that a change is needed next year so that the governor's council may be cleaned out, and a government for the people take the place of one against them. Such a state of affairs takes us back to the Middle Ages."

Dr C. S. McGown, president of American International college and a veteran member of the Springfield school committee, said that the state is losing a great man in Dr Smith. "I'm so disappointed. He is an awfully good man. Knows his work. He has been an inspiration to all principals and officers who have to do with schools. In my judgment, the state is losing a great man."

Reaction at Massachusetts State college to the failure of the state

appointive powers to return State Commissioner of Education Dr Payson Smith to office was one of deep disappointment. It expressed itself in two forms, regret that the state had lost the services of so competent an administrator as Dr Smith and

displeasure that his successor should be one known to be a supporter of the teachers' oath law.

In a radio speech given over station WMAS this morning President Hugh P. Baker of State college, speaking of the danger of regimentation in education, pointed out that many Americans are severely criticizing the extremes of nationalism that have led to educational regimentation in European countries, yet these same people overlook the serious danger of regimentation that threatens all forms of education in the schools and colleges of this country.

If the schools and colleges are effectively to lead the challenge of the times, Dr Baker said, the public must see that they are not forced into extreme regimentation. He called for the support of the fundamentals for which the fathers of the country fought and which are basic in our form of government.

The public demands teachers who are well educated, he said, yet we must not deny them the right to think and to have opinions on questions with which they are concerned within the schools and without.

It is recalled that Dr Baker, speaking before the Women's club at Stockbridge last May, pointed out that "there is no group more loyal to the Constitution of the United States or to the principles on which our government was founded than the teachers in our public schools. Yet when here and there through the country a teacher in a public school or in a college dares to exercise the right, seemingly guaranteed by the Constitution, of freedom of conscience, of freedom of speech, of freedom of petition, there are individuals and organizations that immediately rise up and charge this individual with being either a radical or a Communist. There is grave danger lest individuals and organizations that immediately rise up and charge this individual with being either a radical or a Communist. There is grave danger lest individuals and organizations once teachers, because they have to do with our young, into a separate group of American citizens to which the right of freedom of conscience, of speech and of petition, is denied."

It is also recalled that a conference of elementary school supervisors and principals, meeting at State college last April, passed the following resolution: "Resolved, that this meeting of elementary school principals extend greetings to Commissioner Payson Smith and pledge him our continued hearty support in his conduct of the state department of education in the interests of the children of our commonwealth."



REPUBLICAN  
Springfield, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Whiting's Boston Letter

By E. E. WHITING

Boston, Dec. 18—Politics, censorship—not of politics; a collapse of plain-food opera; new books in the Harvard library; some lectures on this and that; a bit of crime; and some talk of gambling, morals, taste—an average weekly grist in this capital city.

It is a curious spectacle which the political scene offers hereabouts. When the governor of the state thinks and says that the mayor of the city should resign, and when the mayor thinks and says that on the contrary it is the governor who should resign; when there is raging talk about graft in the matter of school-teacher appointments—or at least an attempt, or again at least, an allegation that there was something of the kind—all these manifestations indicate a pretty low ebb of political welfare.

Into whatever merits there may be in the controversy between the governor and the mayor we need not enter; nor do we wish to. It would be a thankless task. What must impress even the most casual reader of the news day by day in this town now is that local political controversy has got down to the bed rock of epithets and "you're another," and that is enough.

However, there is real war between these two Democratic leaders, and what that may betoken in the long run no one can say. Seasoned onlookers at rows among the Boston Democrats are perhaps less impressed than the casual observer, for these Boston Democrats have a habit of brisk and bitter controversy between elections; but it has not prevented them from gaining about absolute control of both the city and the state, politically.

Their way of looking at things is about like that of the raw and enthusiastic soldier in the World war. He took part in his first skirmish, and, coming through unscathed, he was much excited. When things quieted down he turned to an old veteran beside him, and exclaimed:—

"Some scrap, eh?"

The old-timer turned a bored face toward the upstart, and said: "Ach, that was not much of a fight."

The novice was properly snubbed, but not entirely crushed. He thought for a moment, and then ended the dialog with this:—

"Well, it was a dom sight better than no fight at all."

Republicans in Massachusetts who persistently build their hopes on evidences of dissension among the Democrats always forget the old and established fact that the Democrats like a fight for its own sake. This row between the governor and Boston's mayor may be deep-rooted and intense,

but it will not by itself elect a Republican governor next year.

Meantime, the mayor has an interesting proposal, for the consolidation of nine existing city departments into one big public works department; and while, he says, this would not cut down the employed personnel, it would promote efficiency and would be a step toward permanent economies in operation.

This is no novel idea. It has been urged time and again, in and out of political circles. Lately, the Boston Chamber of Commerce has recommended some such condensation.

The tendency under popular government always is to broaden the base of authority; and in an academic sense this probably is a pretty good thing. It prevents such concentration as may serve arrogance and dictatorial authority. Yet it makes toward increased inefficiency, and every so often there is a revolt against the consequent waste, and a plea for some more businesslike method of operation. That is what is being manifested now. It ought to be possible to conduct public affairs efficiently without sacrificing the essentials of popular government.

Another manifestation of this impatience with wastefulness, and the demand for greater concentration of effort and authority, is found in the growing call for biennial sessions of the Legislature; and also in the governor's reiterated demand for a Legislature containing only half the present number.

The governor this week said that it was difficult to reduce the cost of government "when each year the public demands more and more"; and that is a pertinent observation. We hear so much stress laid on the alleged extravagance of legislative bodies and the lavish expenditures of other agencies of our government that we are likely to forget that a considerable share of the blame for high-cost government lies on the shoulders of all of us, who ask from government a great deal more than we used to a decade and more ago. We must have better streets, they must be better cared for; the collection of ashes and refuse must be more expeditiously and expensively carried forward; we must have bigger and better schools; we feel the need for more free parks; we must run our libraries on a more liberal basis; we must have free concerts in the summer time; our beaches must be generously maintained—and so on, all along the line.

Inasmuch as government has no money except that which it takes from all of us, it follows naturally

enough that the more we force government to spend for our safety, our convenience, our comfort and our entertainment, the heavier must be the burden of its cost upon us all.

It may often be true that legislative or executive or administrative bodies waste money, and that the machinery of government may be extravagant and may spend money needlessly, but that is by no means all of the story. The people themselves—all of us—are continuously to blame for a large portion of the cost of government.

Whether we would be better off with a smaller Legislature, and whether we would be better served by biennial instead of annual legislative sessions, are matters open to discussion. There are many of us who feel that we would rather be inefficiently governed under a free democracy than efficiently governed under a dictatorship. Democracy, republics, are never efficient; nor can they be; but they are very human, and that is why we prefer them.

An interesting experiment has been carried on here under the federal government's inspiration, in the form of the Boston Civic Opera chorus and orchestra—first through the ERA, and later under the WPA. Now the activities of this musical effort have been clipped, the director has resigned, and it looks as if a quite promising effort were on its rapid way toward dissolution; which is too bad. It looked for a time as though we might see developed here a permanent civic opera establishment, but it now appears not likely that anything of the sort will come to pass.

On the brighter side of the weekly ledger, we may take note of the annual report of the Harvard university library, to which 87,873 volumes have been added during the year past, bringing the number of books in that vast library to the considerable total of 3,689,429. That appears to be a precise figure. Maybe someone would like to check up and make sure that the count is accurate! Harvard's is the greatest of all college or university libraries, and few libraries of any sort surpass it—only two in this country, they being the Library of Congress and the New York Public library. How long would it take a man to read all those books? Far more years than Nature gives him.

Of distinguished visitors to town, we may record the presence of Most Rev William Temple, archbishop of York, who delivers the Noble lectures at Harvard.

The archbishop's topics are "The nature and task of the Christian church," and "Christian theology and modern thought"; and lest anyone may think these are somewhat abstruse subjects, we may turn to a talk here by an eminent psychologist, Albert Edward Wiggam, who in the Ford Hall forum of the week discussed the birth rate rather pessimistically as it related to a possible decline of culture. In that interesting if not very encouraging lecture, he said one thing that perhaps brings home the thought that the reverend archbishop's topics are quite live.

Dr Wiggam was analyzing the representation of various groups in "Who's Who," and he made the interesting statement that whereas from one group it took 97 to produce one son who made his way into that book, the same achievement came to five missionaries. That is, far more sons of missionaries won to fame than



from any other religious group. A reason he suggested for this was that a missionary finds it necessary, in his work, to have an intelligent wife. Now, we undertake no preaching for the missionaries, who need none;

but if it is the fact that their sons win to a higher percentage of fame than the ordinary run of intelligent and cultured parentage, then there must be something intellectually stimulating in the sort of labors which engage the lives of missionaries. And if that is so, it may be that talk of Christianity, such as these lectures of the archbishop of York, have a direct bearing not alone upon the spiritual life of the times but on the whole field of civilization's advance.

Censorship is worrying Boston again and this because our mayor frowns upon "The Children's Hour," which was to have been brought here after a long run in New York, by the Theater guild.

To undertake discussion of this play, or of its suppression here, would be thankless; and not very pertinent in this letter, for we have neither read the play nor seen it, nor heard it acted; nor are we likely to.

However, let us cull one sentence from a letter written to the Transcript by an indignant reader who protests vigorously against the banning of the play. As readers doubtless know, the play, "The Children's Hour," deals with sex abnormality, and the disastrous results from untrue stories circulated around that theme. The excerpt from the letter in the Transcript is this:—

"On a recent visit to New York I attended a performance of 'The Children's Hour,' and found it a sincere and beautifully written play treating a subject no longer tabu even in the most genteel drawing rooms."

That seems to be the nub of the situation. That is, we ought not to ask our drama to be any more delicate than the most genteel drawing rooms, where, we are led by this indignant Transcript reader to infer, there is very little that is tabu.

The pitfalls of censorship are many, and we do not seek to pass on such a case as this; but maybe what is needed is less censorship but better taste among the intelligentsia. Perhaps it would be stimulating to culture if we could throw open to the public our most genteel drawing rooms, that the crude and uncultured could absorb whatever is to be absorbed there.

Crime has had its fling in town, with one especially bold and amazing robbery—a holdup by armed men who easily and without interruption took two small safes from an express wagon at 9.30 p. m. in one of the main streets of the city. It seems ridiculously simple to carry a robbery through to success.

In conclusion to this rather gloomy letter: Mayor Mansfield, in stopping a gambling scheme connected with certain theaters, said: "Pretty soon there will not be any money left to spend legitimately; it will all be used up in games of chance, such as horse racing, dog racing, beano, etc."

And on the same day a doubtless excellent lady petitions for a legalized state lottery.

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other in Philadelphia

# State Income Tax Revenue Increase, Repeal of Oath Law Loom as Big Battles

## Incoming State Legislature Faces Hectic Session; Curley Will Seek to Slash in Half Number of Solons And to Provide for Biennial Sessions; Ouster of Mansfield Provided in Bill

Boston, Dec. 19.—Efforts to boost the state income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial teachers' oath law loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming Legislature.

The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in the long history beneath the gilded dome.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place 200,000 new contributors to state tax totals, through the reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

The jobs of half the representatives and senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence. Gov James M. Curley announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the Legislature in half and to provide for biennial sessions.

Here is a brief resume of the outstanding problems facing the Legislature—the "second annual session of the 149th general court of the commonwealth of Massachusetts"—some of which may be written into the statutes, and others snowed under in the battle of balots either in the House or Senate:—

Reduce state income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from \$2000 to \$1400 and the exemption for husband and wife from \$2500 to \$1900.

Revise compulsory automobile insurance law, with respect to the recent Supreme Court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the executive council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Gov Curley.

Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Lan-

gone, Jr., filed a bill providing for a referendum to be held next March.

Increase the income to the state from horse and dog racing by boosting the "take" from 3½ to 5 per cent on horses and from 3½ to 10 per cent on the whippets.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week now in effect in state institutions to county institutions.

Place the state police constabulary under civil service.

Raze the old state's prison at Charlestown, either construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for state welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and clarify statutes prohibiting illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor. Prevent employment by the state of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, 60 less than last year on this date, and 48 in the Senate. The deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m., January 11.

Concluded



UNION  
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# REARDON GETS COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION JOB

## Adams School Superintendent Is New State Head

Is Confirmed, 6 to 3, by  
Executive Council After  
Dr. Payson Smith Is Re-  
jected, 5 to 4

## NEW OFFICIAL BACKS OATH FOR TEACHERS

Is "100 Per Cent Supporter"  
of Curley Idea; Kirk and  
Tax Commissioner Long  
Keep Posts

BOSTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—In five minutes today, Dr. Payson Smith was ousted as State commissioner of education after almost two decades of service, and a dark horse among those mentioned to succeed him was appointed and confirmed.

After months of continuous agitation from teachers to reappoint Dr. Smith, who is 63, Gov. James M. Curley submitted his name to the Executive Council. It was rejected 5 to 4.

The governor immediately offered the name of James G. Reardon, 36 years old superintendent of schools in Adams, and the Council just as quickly confirmed him as commissioner. The vote was 6 to 3, strictly on party lines.

Among numerous candidates mentioned as possible successors to Dr. Smith, Reardon had received no special notice or support until last night, when a majority of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation indorsed him. A minority favored Dr. Smith's retention.

Reardon styled himself a "100 per cent supporter" of the controversial Massachusetts teacher's oath act, while Dr. Smith originally opposed it. How much weight was attached by the

## SUCCEEDS SMITH



JAMES D. REARDON

councillors to these attitudes of the respective candidates, however, was not immediately apparent.

Reardon's term of office is five years and his salary \$9000 annually.

While rejecting Dr. Smith's reappointment, the council did confirm reappointment of two other State officials named before Gov. Curley was elected.

One was Henry F. Long, State commissioner of taxation and corporations, in public service for many years. He was reappointed for a term of three years, at a salary of \$7500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31 years old commissioner of public safety, appointed by Gov. Curley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely. He will serve five years at \$6000 annually.

Gov. Curley, explaining the Council's vote on the Smith reappointment said: "I conferred with the Democratic members of the Council concerning the Smith appointment before the council session, and with the exception of the Lieutenant Governor, they were all opposed to Mr. Smith."

Dr. Smith, whose home is in Brookline, was elected commissioner of education by the State Board of Education during the administration of Gov. Samuel H. McCall.

Later the State departments were reorganized, and the office was made an appointive one.

Reardon, a Legionnaire, was graduated in 1923 from Boston College and studied later at Harvard and Boston Universities.

He has been superintendent at Adams for a year, going there after serving in the same capacity at East Bridgewater for eight years. He also had taught at East Bridgewater High School, and was principal for a year.

The Council again deferred action on the Governor's appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.

Gov. Curley said he had not decided on reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney, as director of the division of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman, as commissioner of corrections or Maj. George J. Cronin as State purchasing agent. The terms of Kenney and Lyman expired Dec. 1 and Cronin's term ended Dec. 13.

## Appointed in Adams On June 15

ADAMS, Dec. 18—James G. Reardon, 35, a native of Medway, was appointed superintendent of schools in Adams on June 15 for a three years' term. He succeeded Henry L. Cecil, who had resigned about a month previous. Mr. Reardon, a son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Reardon of Medway, was graduated from Boston College in 1923, and while there was an honor student and a member of the varsity football team. He has degrees of A. B. and A. M. and has done graduate work at Boston College, Boston University and Harvard University. He is a veteran of the World War.

## Tutored in Greek

After receiving his bachelor's degree at Boston College in 1923 he tutored in Greek at that institution for a time and then became assistant principal of East Bridgewater High School. Later he was made principal of that school and subsequently superintendent at East Bridgewater. Just before he was selected for the Adams position he was voted another three years' term in East Bridgewater as officials there attempted to persuade him to stay.

Mr. Reardon came to Adams highly recommended by educators and educational associations in all parts of New England. Two years ago when Mr. Cecil was elected superintendent, Mr. Reardon was second choice. His selection this year was by a two to one vote of the Adams School Board. While teaching in East Bridgewater, Mr. Reardon was married to the former Anita Thorndike, daughter of the late Judge Hubert C. Thorndike of Brockton, life-long Democrat. They have four children, Cynthia, seven; James G., Jr., five; Susan Thorndike, three, and Rosemary, one. The Reardons live on B St., Adams.

Mr. Reardon is a member of St. Thomas' Church, Adams, and of the American Legion and Knights of Columbus. He also holds membership in Phi Gamma Mu, National honor society, and is a past president of the Plymouth County Teachers' Association. He also is a member of the New England Superintendents' Association, the Massachusetts' Superintendents' Association, the National Science and National Mathematics groups, the University Club, South Shore Schoolman's Club, the Hibernian Club and Emmet Club.

He served as director of the Public Health Nursing Association in Bridgewater and was also chairman of the Christmas seal committee, the transportation and school nurse committees and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in that town.

*Continued*



Concluded

### Has Many Friends

Since moving to Adams, Mr. Reardon has made a host of friends and is especially highly regarded by the teachers under his jurisdiction and by

members of the various Parent-Teacher Associations in the town. He has been in constant demand as a speaker at public gatherings not only in Adams but throughout the county and on last Sunday night was the guest speaker at the annual memorial service of Adams Lodge of Elks.

Since it first became known that he was considered a candidate for the commissionership, Mr. Reardon has received hundreds of unsolicited endorsements from educational groups, public officials, and private citizens in all parts of the State and especially from the East Bridgewater section. His appointment will be warmly received in Adams, despite the fact that the school officials and townspeople feel that they are losing an able administrator.

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## TOWNSEND CLUBS TO BEAT CURLEY, HAWKS DECLARES

**"Everytime He Talks for  
Roosevelt Pauper Plan  
He Licks Himself,"  
Says State Leader**

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Boston Traveler, in a copyrighted story, says Charles M. Hawks, Massachusetts' manager of the Townsend Pension Plan Club, predicted Gov. James M. Curley would not be nominated for the U. S. Senate.

"We have 30,000 registered Townsend Club members in Massachusetts," the Traveler quotes him as saying, "and we have 10 times that many signers of pledges. That makes 300,000 votes."

Referring to Curley's avowed plan of running for the Senate, the paper quotes Hawks as saying: "Curley won't get by the primaries. Every time he goes on the air and talks for Roosevelt's pauper-pension plan, he licks himself. A year ago we had 45 clubs in Massachusetts and now we have 154 clubs."

"I believe Mr. Roosevelt's New Deal will be repudiated by a tremendous degree in this state."

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## CURLEY GIVES REARDON OATH; DEFENDS ACTION

**"No One Is Indispensable,"  
He Says in Defense of Re-  
moval of Dr. Payson  
Smith.**

(Special to The Springfield Union)  
BOSTON, Dec. 19 — Declaring "no one is indispensable" as a defense for ousting Dr. Payson Smith yesterday as State Commissioner of Education after 20 years of service and over the protests of leading educators, Gov. James M. Curley this afternoon administered the oath of office to James G. Reardon of Adams as Dr. Smith's successor. Mr. Reardon has been superintendent of schools in Adams. The Governor expressed confidence that Dr. Smith's education and training "was no greater than yours" in swearing in the new commissioner and wished Mr. Reardon every success in his new office.

"I want to say," the Governor declared, "that I wish you every success in the office to which you have been appointed. I have appreciation that the education and training of your predecessor was no greater than yours. If we all were to drop dead tomorrow other men and women would take our places who are even better qualified than we ever could be. This applies to the Education Department as well as any other place."

"You have a real responsibility and I am confident you will discharge it. That is the truest statement ever made. We sometimes kid ourselves we are indispensable. I repeat there is no one who is absolutely indispensable."

### Reardon Issues Statement

Commissioner Reardon, after taking the oath, issued a formal statement in which he expressed a determination to uphold the high standards of education in Massachusetts and to reiterate his position favoring the teachers oath law.

"My interests from now on," he said "will be to uphold the high standards which have made Massachusetts conspicuous in the field of education. I shall be ready to do everything in my power to further adult education, to maintain and, if possible, improve the standing of state schools, and to do everything possible to secure employment for the young men and women citizens of Massachusetts who are qualified for teaching positions."

"As to any specific program, I prefer to make no announcement until I have had opportunity to become more familiar with the problems now under consideration in the State Department of Education."

"Regarding the oath. At the present, the law of the state is that the teachers should take this oath. The General Court of Massachusetts has decided that at present such an oath is necessary. As long as the law made by the General Court exists, there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law abiding citizen. Those citizens who feel that the oath is not necessary, can have recourse to the constitutional method of changing the law. Concerning the necessity of this law at present, that depends on the facts which seemed to justify the General Court in passing this law and the ability as well as the willingness of the educational authorities to handle the situation without the aid of special legislation. Concerning the observance of the law itself, I can see no objection to any educator taking an oath which obligates him only to the performance of what is a clear duty. An oath similar in most respects is that taken by lawyers and by many public officials in the state."

### Smith Thanks Supporters

"I want to express my deep appreciation to the thousands of school officials, teachers, and citizens who have given to me and the Department of Education their support through the years in which I have been in their service and in that of the children of the commonwealth, and for the continued confidence that has been shown me in recent months," Dr. Smith said this afternoon.

"I want, also to speak of the invaluable service that the press of the state has rendered in acquainting the public with the work and activities of the department and in its sincere and wholesome criticism of its policies."

"I have taken great pride and satisfaction in the office of Commissioner of Education, and I have made every effort to discharge its duties in a manner consistent with its high traditions. In that effort I have had at all times the invaluable support of the members of the State Board of Education, of my associates on my staff, and in the institutions associated with the Department of Education."

### Board to Meet

The possibility that there might be resignations from the advisory board of the State Department of Education as a result of the ousting of Dr. Smith developed this afternoon.

It is learned that a call has been issued for a secret meeting of the Board at the Hotel Somerset tonight.

The advisory board is unpaid and consists of Walter A. McDuffie of Springfield, Miss Mary E. Murray of Cambridge, Mrs. John Power of Worcester, Henry B. Sawyer of Boston and A. Lincoln Filene of Boston.

The meeting of the board is entirely unofficial, it is pointed out, and word was passed yesterday by the secretary of one of the older board members.



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## Advisory Education Board Meeting This Afternoon to Act on Payson Smith Ouster

Governor Curley Tells Reardon 'Education of Your  
Predecessor No Greater Than Yours'; Declares  
'There Is No One Who Is Absolutely Indispensable'

Special to The Daily News

Boston, Dec. 19—As Gov Curley this morning administered oath of office to James G. Reardon of Adams as the new state commissioner of education, it became known that a meeting of the advisory board of education has been quietly called at the Hotel Somerset in this city for 5 this afternoon to take what action seems necessary relative to the displacement yesterday by the governor of Dr Payson Smith from the commissionship. The advisory board meeting was supposed to be kept quiet, but news of it leaked out.

The commissioner is chairman of this board but will not be invited to the meeting. On this board also are Miss Mary E. Murray of Cambridge, a recent appointee of the governor, who used her to displace a sister of Mayor F. W. Mansfield of Boston, whose term had expired; Miss Anna M. Power of Worcester, recently re-appointed by Gov Curley; Walter C. McDuffee of Springfield, Henry B. Sawyer of Boston, A. Lincoln Fleen of Boston and Thomas H. Sullivan of Millbury.

What action will be taken was not predicted, but it is anticipated one or more resignations may result in protest of the move yesterday in the executive council that brought about Reardon's appointment and confirmation.

"I want to say," Gov Curley said as he concluded giving the oath, "that I wish you every success in the office to which you have been appointed. I have appreciation that the education and training of your predecessor was no greater than yours. If we all were to drop dead tomorrow, other men and women would take our places who are even better qualified than we ever could be. This applies to the education department as well as any other place. You have a real responsibility and I am confident you will discharge it. That is the truest statement ever made. We sometimes kid ourselves that we are indispensable. I repeat there is no one who is absolutely indispensable."

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## Hopes to Collect Civil War Expense

Boston Attorney Authorized  
by Council to Recover  
From Government

BOSTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—Echoes of a forlorn hope crept into the Executive Council meeting today when a Boston attorney was authorized to take steps to recover money spent during the Civil War at the request of the Federal Government.

Francis R. Mullin, attorney, was empowered by the Council to try to collect from the United States \$233,885.82 which the Commonwealth expended at the request of President Lincoln in fortifying its coast.

Mullin reported to Gov. James M. Curley that he saw a chance for recovery and, if authorized, would go after the debt on the understanding he would keep 10 per cent of all he obtained.

As a first step Mullin must induce Congress to pass legislation to make recovery possible.

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## IS PRAISED FOR HUSTLING THE STATE PAYMENT

Assessor O'Brien Complimented  
By Mayor and Other  
Officials

High praise was expressed today by city officials for the action of Chairman Stephen D. O'Brien of the board of assessors in going to Boston yesterday and securing payment by the state of welfare bills amounting to \$283,212.70. This payment makes it possible for the city to balance its accounts for the year without a deficit and to have a substantial amount to carry over to the general fund for 1936 to aid in keeping down the tax rate. As the city has never had a deficit in closing its books at the end of any year in its history the success of Chairman O'Brien in securing payment is considered as of major importance.

Mayor Henry H. Martens, City Auditor Albert E. Neale and City Treasurer George W. Rice were among those who expressed their gratitude over the success of Chairman O'Brien in his presentation of the city's claims. His contacts with financial officers in the state house and his action in going directly to Gov James M. Curley and the executive council immediately after the strenuous meeting yesterday afternoon were particularly commended. O'Brien was the first one to congratulate the governor upon the appointment of Henry F. Long as state commissioner of corporation and taxation.

City Treasurer Rice said today: "Chairman Stephen D. O'Brien of the board of assessors is entitled to credit for his plan of going directly to Boston to secure payment on the welfare account after it had been announced that no more payments would be made until next year unless in exceptional cases. Chairman O'Brien and City Auditor Albert E. Neale first went to Boston and conferred with state officials without securing the money. Notwithstanding that the persistency of Chairman O'Brien and his contacts in Boston succeeded in getting the payment through."

"It is my belief that if he had not taken the matter up in that way the city would not have received payment this year, resulting in much embarrassment as revenues from that source had been estimated in making up the tax rate for the year. It is my understanding that Springfield is the only city to secure such payments except Boston and Fall River."

The Springfield welfare department was the first in the entire state to submit its bills. Four checks covering the payments made to the city were today turned over by Chairman O'Brien to Mr Rice. Payments are expected on welfare bills by Holyoke, Chicopee and Ludlow before the end of the fiscal year.



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# Teachers Indorse Reardon At Boston After 'Fight'

## State Teachers' Federation Directors, Representing 21,000 Members, Act Night Before New Education Commissioner Appointed—Minority Report Sub- mitted as Well

### Final Vote Is 12-10

Boston, Dec. 18.—James G. Reardon, Adams superintendent of schools, who was appointed today to succeed Dr. Payson Smith as commissioner of education was indorsed by a majority of the directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' federation, representing 21,000 teachers, after a bitter quarrel at a special meeting last night.

Opposing directors, who supported the retention of Smith and felt his defeat so strongly that they issued a minority report charging "exploitation" of the federation, said that during the arguments one Reardon supporter stated that the governor would look favorably on the latter's indorsement.

### Governor Notified

After the meeting several members, all supporters of Reardon, departed for the governor's home in Jamaica Plain. One of them wanted to know if the governor had informed the newspaper of the meeting, which was held at Ford hall and was not publicly announced in advance.

Last night the governor stated that he did not anticipate the appointment of a successor to Dr. Smith in the immediate future, and further said that he had no particular candidate selected for the post.

The appointed places at the head of Massachusetts' educational system, one of the staunchest supporters of the teachers' oath bill and a man who believes there has been too much squabbling and not enough action over it to date.

"I am 100 percent in favor of the oath bill. I do not believe that communism and socialism should be spread among our school children, and the teachers who spread this type of propaganda should be driven from our schools," he said last night.

Although he did not serve overseas, he was a member of the R. O. T. C., and is now an ardent member of the American Legion.

Mr. Reardon also favored a method of certifying all teachers throughout the state, thus making sure that only qualified persons shall teach in the schools of the state.

"We should be much stricter on that score. John L. Davaren (a member of the federation board of directors) and myself are planning to submit a bill calling for such certification before the Legislature this year," he said.

Last night's meeting of the federation board of directors was one of the most bitter in the organization's history. The Davaren forces were led by John L. Davaren of Milford while Mrs. Grace I. Woodbury of Melrose, president of the board, fought for a vote for retention of Dr. Smith.

After the meeting had lasted an hour and a half, a vote was taken and Reardon was indorsed, 12-10. Five members of the board were unable to attend, and two of these added their names to the minority report by telegram.

### Smith Previously Commended

The meeting last night was called after the board had been split into two camps, after Mrs. Woodbury and Secretary Hugh Nixon admittedly interpreted a resolution of commendation and appreciation of Dr. Smith's work as commissioner, which was passed by the board on November 16, an indorsement of Dr. Smith for reappointment.

Members of the board who sought the indorsement of Reardon objected when Mrs. Woodbury publicly placed the federation in favor of Dr. Smith. Fourteen of them, they stated last night, sent personal letters to the governor urging the appointment of Reardon and objecting to the reappointment of Dr. Smith.

On December 14, five members—Martin F. O'Connor, Martin H. Casey, John L. Davaren, Miss Cutler and Miss McDonald—requested a special meeting of the board for the expressed purpose of indorsing a candidate for the office of commissioner.

The special meeting was called for last night.

### Text of Resolution

After an hour and a half of bitter arguments the following resolution was adopted:—

"Whereas, the president and secretary of the Massachusetts Teachers' federation purporting to represent 21,000 members recently indorsed the reappointment of Payson Smith as commissioner of education, and

"Whereas, the teachers of the commonwealth are vitally interested in the appointment of a commissioner who will best serve the interest of education in this state, therefore be it

"Resolved, that this board of directors record itself as recommending the appointment of Supt. James G. Reardon of Adams, Mass., as the commissioner of education.

"And that, a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the secretary without delay to his excellency, James M. Curley, governor of the commonwealth."

### Minority's Statement

The minority report, signed by Grace I. Woodbury, Annie C. Woodward, William J. Saunders, N. Elliott Willis, John C. Davis, Arthur P. Irving, Lillian M. McLeod, Russell Marshall, Joseph R. Burgess and Ruth D. Marr, was issued immediately after the meeting. It read:—

"To all groups affiliated with the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation: "The undersigned, believing that the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation is being exploited, and believing that the vast majority of the 21,000 teachers in Massachusetts are against such exploitation, hereby submit the following facts to be designated as a minority report.

"On November 16, 1935, the board of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' federation, in meeting assembled, adopted a resolution which expressed commendation and appreciation of Dr. Payson Smith's services as commissioner of education, which resolution was presented to Gov. Curley personally by a committee made up of Mrs. Woodbury, Martin F. O'Connor, Annie C. Woodward, Harry A. Boyle, Miss McDonald and Dwight S. Davis.

"On December 14 a request in writing was received, signed by five members, calling for a special meeting of the board of directors for the purpose of taking action on the indorsement of a candidate for the position of commissioner of education. This request was signed by Martin F. O'Connor, Martin H. Casey, John L. Davaren, Miss Cutler and Miss McDonald.

"As a result of this meeting and as a result of electioneering on the part of certain members of the board, James G. Reardon was indorsed.

"We, the undersigned, do not wish the members of the Massachusetts Teachers' federation to think that we have stooped to such unethical methods as to indorse a person for a position that is not already vacant. We did not vote to indorse James G. Reardon for the office of commissioner of education and regret exceedingly that the 21,000 teachers of Massachusetts have been placed in such an unfavorable light by action of a majority of the board."



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**REPUBLICAN**  
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### More Dream Ships

Paul Chapman, formerly in financial control of the United States lines, inc., is evidently not as great a naval architect as our own Gov Curley. For the ships of 1250 feet in length, against about 1020 for the Normandie and Queen Mary, which he has proposed, are spoken of as costing a mere \$50,000,000 apiece. The governor's nobler dream ships of some months ago were to cost \$100,000,000 each.

Mr Chapman was without shipping experience, one believes, until he made his financial adventure with the United States lines. It is significant that the ship for which that company, under new control, is reported to have just signed a contract is to be a cabin liner of moderate size, closely similar to the popular Washington and Manhattan, and is to cost about \$11,500,000. The doubt that the Normandie and Queen Mary will ever pay their way has lately been increased by the fact that the Normandie, costing over \$50,000,000 has been laid up for four months. This period is to be taken advantage of to reduce, if possible, the ship's excessive vibration. But it is also stated that even if that defect had not developed, the ship would still have been laid up for the winter months owing to the meager demands for accommodations.

It is easy to get a bill of any kind introduced in Congress by asking some obliging representative to have his secretary drop it in a capacious wire basket. It is even easier to propose a gigantic ship. Anybody can do it. But it is quite a job to get a bill made into a law by being passed by the House and the Senate and then signed by the President. In view, however, of the rather numerous laws which, after all, do manage to get passed and the very few merchant ships which, to the lament of patriots, get themselves built, in this country, it seems an even bigger job to get a Chapman or a Curley dream ship made into steel.

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### ADAMS

## NEW COURT CLERK NATIVE OF ADAMS

Adams, Dec. 18—Atty Daniel E. Kiley, approved today by the governor's council as clerk of the local district court to succeed Atty Edwin K. P. McPeck, is a native and lifelong resident of the town. He is a son of Mr and Mrs Daniel E. Kiley, the former a restaurant proprietor.



DANIEL E. KILEY

and while at the Adams high school featured as a football player. He attended St Michael's college at Winoski, Vt., and transferred to Georgetown, graduating from the law school in 1930. After being admitted to the District of Columbia bar, he practiced law at Washington, D. C. and returned to Adams, studying in the office of Atty Thomas F. Cassidy at Pittsfield. Atty Kiley was one of the first men in Adams to show his friendship for Gov Curley and he organized a Curley club in this vicinity. He makes his home with his parents on Myrtle street and has two sisters, Miss Margaret Kiley, a teacher at the Adams High school and Miss Mary Kiley, a teacher at Plunkett Junior High school.

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## WESTFIELD WIFE KILLER TO GET HIS FREEDOM

Samuel Powers, Sentenced in 1914 for Murder, to Be Among Number to Get Clemency.

(Special to The Springfield Union)

BOSTON, Dec. 18—Two murderers, two men convicted of manslaughter and one sentenced for arson will be extended executive clemency, the State Board of Parole will release 15 first offenders and the Commissioner of Correction will release 200 inmates of the state farm and 20 women at the Women's Reformatory. Announcement to this effect was made this afternoon by Gov. James M. Curley. It will be quite a Christmas at state institutions.

One of the lifers for whom the Governor will ask the Executive Council to commute sentence and make eligible for parole is Samuel Powers of Westfield. Powers was sentenced to life imprisonment in Hampden Superior Court, Feb. 20, 1914 for the murder of his wife. In his case the Council will be asked to commute the sentence to one of 20 years. The other lifer is Wojciech Birusz of Salem. He was sentenced in Essex Superior Court April 20, 1920 to serve a life sentence for the murder of Mary Lavoie. In his case the Governor will ask the Council to commute sentence to one of 20 years with the understanding that Birusz will be deported to Poland, his birth place.

The other three concerned in the Governor's recommendation for clemency are: William Hooper of Lynn, sentenced in 1933 to a term of seven years for manslaughter. The Governor will recommend his sentence be commuted to one to seven years; Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge, sentenced in 1929 to serve 12 to 20 years for manslaughter, the Governor will ask the sentence to be commuted to one of seven to 20 years; Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in 1932 to serve 10 to 12 years for burning a building, the Governor will recommend sentence be commuted to one of from four to 12 years.

The State Board of Parole will release 12 first offenders now at the Concord Reformatory and 14 more will be released before Jan. 31.

The Commissioner of Correction has authorized the release of 200 inmates of the State Farm for Christmas, practically all of whom were committed for drunkenness. At the same time 20 women now at the Woman's Reformatory will be released.



NEWS  
Springfield, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## REARDON TAKES OATH OF OFFICE AS EDUCATIONAL COMMISSIONER

One of Youngest Men in Coun-  
try to Hold Such an  
Office

Boston, Dec. 19—James Gerrard (Roddy) Reardon, 35-year-old small-town school superintendent, today took the oath as State Education commissioner—one of the youngest men in the United States to hold such an office.

The oath was administered by Governor James M. Curley, whose appointment of Reardon yesterday brought stinging rebukes from some Republican and Democratic newspapers. Both Curley and Reardon are Democrats.

Press attacks were directed not at Reardon personally but at the manner in which his appointment was put through the executive council. Curley first announced he would reappoint Commissioner Payson Smith, but added that if the council, which is Curley-controlled, should reject Smith, he would appoint Reardon.

Meanwhile the ousted Smith hinted he might issue a statement later.

Reardon's promotion from a \$3600-a-year job as superintendent of schools in the Berkshire county town of Adams to the \$9000-a-year commissionship, which carries a five-year term, comes only 12 years after his graduation from Boston college.

He was born July 22, 1900 at Medway, where his parents, William and Mary Reardon, 79 and 78 years old, respectively, still live. The first couple to be married at St Joseph's church, Medway, they will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary next September 15.

After attending the public schools, young Reardon entered Boston college. He used to get up at 5 a. m. daily so he could milk the cows before going to classes.

During the World war he was a member of the U. S. army.

Graduating from Boston college in 1923, he studied at Boston and Harvard universities before taking his master's degree. Thereafter he served successively as assistant principal and principal of East Bridgewater high school and superintendent of school in that town. While teaching there he coached the football team.

It was while in East Bridgewater that he married the former Anita Thorndike, daughter of the late Judge H. C. Thorndike of Brockton.

Last June Reardon became school superintendent at Adams.

A football player while at Boston college, Reardon is a husky, full-faced six-footer. But despite his physique he is better at indoor than outdoor sports, playing good games of dominoes and checkers but mediocre golf.

At Adams he has lived in a cream-colored eight-room house on B street and his wife and their four children, Cynthia, 6, James Jr., 5 Susan 3, and Rosemary 1. The children's pet is a 150-pound great dane named "Donny."

The teacher's oath law must be upheld and the standing of schools of the state maintained, Mr Reardon said as he took oath of office.

"As long as the oath made by the general court exists," stated Commissioner Reardon, "there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law abiding citizen."

"Concerning the observance of the law itself, I can see no objection to any educator taking an oath which obligates him only to the performance of what is clear duty—An oath similar in most respects to that taken by lawyers and by many public officials in the state."

Dr Smith, upon leaving his post as Commissioner of Education, this afternoon made this statement—

"I want to express my deep appreciation to the thousands of school officials, teachers, and citizens who have given to me and to the Department of Education their support through the years in which I have been in their service and in that of the children of the commonwealth and for the continued confidence that has been shown me in recent months."

I want also to speak of the invaluable service that the press of the state has rendered in acquainting the public with the work and activities of the department and its sincere and wholesome criticism of its policies.

"I have taken great pride and satisfaction in the office of Commissioner of Education, I have made every effort to discharge its duties in a manner consistent with its high traditions. In that effort I have had at all times the invaluable support of the members of the State Board of Education, of my associates on my staff, and in the institutions associated with the Department of Education."

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Adams

## APPOINTEE KILEY EARLY DECLARED FOR GOV. CURLEY

New Clerk of Adams Court  
Is Well Known for Activities in Democratic  
Circles

ADAMS, Dec. 18—Atty. Daniel Kiley, appointed court clerk today, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel E. Kiley, Sr., and was born in North Adams, but has lived practically all of his life in Adams. He was graduated from Liberty Street Grammar School in 1919 and Adams High School in 1923. He was a star football and baseball player in high school. He attended St. Michael's College for two years and then transferred to Georgetown, graduating from the college and then the law school in 1930. He was admitted to the District of Columbia bar the week after graduation and practised law in the office of Atty. William Leahy, a former teacher at Williamstown High School, who is considered one of the outstanding lawyers in Washington.

He returned to Adams a few years later and then studied in the office of Atty. Thomas F. Cassidy at Pittsfield, one of Gov. Curley's closest friends and a member of the State Racing Commission. He was appointed accountant in the ERA office of Adams Oct. 4, 1934 and held that position until last Thursday, when the office was disbanded through the transfer to WPA.

Mr. Kiley was one of the first men in Adams to declare for Gov. Curley and besides having an active part in forming the Curley club in Adams, of which he was secretary, he also organized a Curley Club in Savoy. He was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for representative in the second Berkshire district, composed of the towns of Adams, Savoy, Cheshire and Williamstown. He also sought the nomination again last year but was defeated, although he carried Adams.

Mr. Kiley makes his home with his parents on Myrtle St. He has two sisters, Miss Margaret Kiley, a teacher in Adams High School and Miss Mary Kiley, a teacher in Plunkett Junior High School. His father is one of the best known restaurant owners in Berkshire County and has always been a supporter of and substantial contributor to the Democratic party.



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### Governor Has Shown Himself Up, Says Bowker

From Our Special Reporter

Boston, Dec. 18—The action of the council this afternoon in rejecting Dr Payson Smith's reappointment as state commissioner of education, and the subsequent submission of James G. Reardon of Adams for the job, and his confirmation, brought the following statement from Gov Curley's arch-enemy, Representative Philip G. Bowker of Brookline:—  
"The despicable methods of Gov Curley are now only too apparent. His backdoor tactics in the case of Dr Payson Smith should not be overlooked. First, through his henchmen, he maneuvered a vote through the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers to support James G. Reardon of Adams for the position of commissioner of

education. This morning he held a caucus of the Democratic members of the council behind closed doors. The council then met and the governor submitted Dr Smith's name for reappointment. A vote of 5 to 4 rejected Dr Smith. The governor, according to the prearranged plan, then put in Mr Reardon's name, which the council confirmed by a vote of 6 to 3.

"How is it that the Democratic members of the council apparently dared to oppose the governor in the voting on Dr Smith? What a bluff on the part of the governor. Does he think for one minute the public cannot see through this? By trying to save his own face and put his counselors on the spot, the governor has stooped to tactics of the lowest sort and has only shown himself up."

### Says Reardon's Statement Should Disqualify Him

From Our Special Reporter

Boston, Dec. 18—Discussing the quoted statement of James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools of Adams and a candidate for position of state commissioner of education, that he is in favor of the teachers' oath law, Robert J. Watt, secretary-treasurer of the state Federation of Labor, said today prior to the council meeting:—

"If Mr Reardon is quoted correctly in saying that he is 1000 per cent for the teachers' oath, that statement alone should disqualify him as commissioner of education in Massachusetts.

"Massachusetts was the birthplace of American liberty and it should not be made its graveyard. People who believe in the teachers' oath are believers in the communistic method of teaching—which is regimentation of school children by the regimentation of their schoolteachers.

"If a man who believes in this form of teaching is appointed the walls of Faneuil hall will begin to tumble in."

### Mount Holyoke Teachers Disappointed at Choice

South Hadley, Dec. 18—Professors at Mount Holyoke college, when interviewed on the subject of John Reardon's appointment as state commissioner of education, expressed disappointment at the choice.

However, since they have already made official protest through such organizations as the New England Association of Colleges and Secretarial Schools, they felt that the time for such action had passed.

### EVENING UNION Springfield, Mass.

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and laughter.

### Worcester Church Protests Parole

#### Objects to Release of Firebug Sentenced for Burning of Edifice

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—A Worcester church today protested one of the Christmas paroles proposed to the Executive Council by Gov. James M. Curley.

The protest came from the Pleasant Street Baptist Church and concerned Henry A. Gardner, convicted incendiary, for whom Curley favored commutation of sentence.

Gardner, a Worcester youth, was sentenced in 1932 to 10 to 12 years for burning a building. The Pleasant Street Church was allegedly fired by Gardner.

The Governor recommended clemency for five state prison inmates through commutation of their sentences to make them eligible for parole at yesterday's council meeting. Action was postponed until Monday.

Two "lifers" serving time for murder were among those recommended. One is Samuel Powers of Westfield, who has been in prison since 1914 for slaying his wife. The other is Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in 1920 for killing Mary B. Lavoie. It was expected he would be deported to his native Poland if freed.

The Governor also announced 200 prisoners serving time at the State Farm at Bridgewater for drunkenness would be freed next week, but Richard Olney, chairman of the board of paroles, said the figure was "A little more than 100" and added, "they would have been freed at that time anyway."

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### MORE RESTRAINT IS ADVISABLE

Many of us in our indignation over one thing or another sometimes grow so heated as to permit our feelings to get the better of us and to indulge in exaggeration, sometimes even gross exaggeration. Even educators of prominence and undoubted ability are not free from this practice, as witness the comments of some of them over the dropping of Dr Payson Smith as state commissioner of education.

Perhaps they would be justified in the exaggeration they indulge in if Dr Smith's successor was selected purely for political reasons and had no qualifications for the office whatever. This certainly cannot be said of James G. Reardon, generally rated as a brilliant young educator who has background, experience and character to commend him.

Yet we have some of our leading educators indicating that the educational system of the state is about to go to perdition because Dr Smith has not been reappointed. When they declare, as some of them do, that the removal of Dr Smith means that the educational welfare of every child in this commonwealth has been sacrificed, one might as well take the view that if anything should ever happen to Dr Smith while in office the state educational system might as well be ditched entirely.

Just how this sort of reasoning can be figured out is something of a mystery to all but the educators who can hardly be called impartial. They might well give expression to their chagrin and disappointment, but they might also bear in mind such a quality as restraint. They might also take into consideration the fact that the candidacy of Mr Reardon for the office was indorsed by a majority of the directors of the Massachusetts State Federation, which represents something like 21,000 teachers.

So even those who have been and still are sympathetic toward Dr Smith may well give pause and while expressing their regret, indicate that, happily, his successor is a man admirably qualified for the office to which he has been named and that the public need not feel that the educational system of the state will suffer under his direction.



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Springfield, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

### Results as Expected

As might reasonably have been expected, the strong demand of educational authorities, teachers and others throughout the Commonwealth for the reappointment of so experienced and highly qualified a Commissioner of Education as Dr. Payson Smith was no match for the desire and purpose of Governor Curley to appoint someone else. There are conditions in which a public trust is no match for a political plum.

The Governor, who has further political ambitions, realized the political dangers of flying too boldly and too openly in the face of the demand for Dr. Smith's reappointment. Thus apparently the course of procedure had to be discreetly camouflaged though, we fear, the process was rather too transparent for a desired public deception.

Naturally the problem was to do something while seeming to favor not doing it. At the proper time which was Tuesday a majority of the members of the board of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation voted to recommend to Governor Curley the appointment of James O. Reardon, school superintendent of Adams as Commissioner. According to the reports of the proceedings the member of the board who introduced the resolution for this recommendation frankly informed the other members that the Governor "expected" this action. Any evidence that the Governor expected anything else is unfortunately lacking.

The next day, or yesterday, came the regular meeting of the Governor's Council, now, by the aid of a former member graciously promoted to the Superior Court bench, in full control of the Governor, who prior to the meeting had a secret conference with the Democratic members. If the Governor expressed a political or other desire to reappoint Dr. Smith he must have had amazingly poor luck with the Democratic members.

To the Council the Governor announced the reappointment of Dr. Smith with the reservation that, if the Council failed to confirm he would name Mr. Reardon of Adams. The Council apparently behaved as expected. Dr. Smith's reappointment lacked confirmation by a party vote with a single exception—the vote of Lieutenant Governor Hurley who did not have to vote and whose vote in the circumstances conveniently made no difference with the result.

Thereupon Governor Curley, without any recorded manifestations of deep sorrow, named Mr. Reardon. Lest delay in action might breed too many unpleasant reactions and perhaps mar a fait accompli, the appointment was immediately confirmed under suspension of the rules.

Thus for the credulous Governor Curley expressed a desire to reappoint Dr. Smith and

Lieutenant Governor Hurley expressed the same desire without, however, changing the result. Thus was furnished the appearance of trying to do what it was not intended to do.

But if somewhat devious in methods, the result is perfectly logical politically. The people of the State voted for Governor Curley. He is Governor and thus has been given the authority to carry out his own political ideas. That he has such ideas has already been demonstrated. The results are as might reasonably be expected.

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**EVENING UNION**  
Springfield, Mass.

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### Hearing Ordered In Pardon Case

**All Officials Favor Freedom  
for Worcester Man,  
Says Curley**

(Special to The Springfield Union)  
BOSTON, Dec. 19—Gov. Curley's proposal to commute the sentence of Henry A. Gardner, Worcester pyromaniac, who burned down All Saints Episcopal Church and damaged the Pleasant St. Baptist Church in Worcester January, 1932, so that he would be eligible for immediate parole, has stirred up such a hornet's nest of protest that the Governor has decided to give a hearing on this matter before the pardons committee of the Executive Council on Monday morning. Gardner was sentenced to 10 to 12 years in State prison on five counts of incendiarism. Gov. Curley proposes to lessen his sentence from one of from four to 12 years. The Governor, in defense, said his action was based on the unanimous recommendation of every official connected with the Penal Department and with corrections.

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### ANNUAL MILITARY BALL AND CONCERT

Northampton, Dec. 18—The 13th annual military ball of Co G National Guard, will be staged tomorrow night at the state armory. Bob Miller's orchestra will provide music for a concert and dancing. A number of prominent military figures will be guests at the affair. Gov James M. Curley has been invited, but will probably be represented by a military aide. The ball always attracts a large throng and this is expected to prove no exception.

Lieut Raymond J. Lane is general chairman of the committee making arrangements. The individual committees are as follows: Reception, Sergt Benoit; checking, Sergt O'Connor and Privates Montena, Kocot and Benoit; refreshments, Capt Warriner and Capt Hicks; tickets, Capt Martell and Privates Miller and Challet, and decorations, Capt Tobin.



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TWENTY-SIX PAGES

### A Political Appointment

Thoughtful people in Massachusetts know that politics would be a dwindling business if there were no political spoils and no promises and stratagems having to do with appointment of certain persons to public offices. These thoughtful people desire, however, that political manipulation should stop short of the courts and the schools. They desire, too, that numerous administrative jobs should be regarded as beyond political intrigue so long as the incumbents are doing their duty efficiently, without regard to the demands of politicians in either party. In short, public administration, to be effective, must hold the promise of reasonable continuity in office.

Gov Curley caused no little mental distress throughout the state by giving a judicial appointment to a member of the executive council who had made it possible for him to convert a Republican majority in that body into a Democratic majority. The governor now puts a man of his own choosing into the office of state commissioner of education, although the best opinion of the citizens, freely expressed again and again, sought the retention of a commissioner who had given able, impartial and nonpolitical service.

The man chosen by the governor, James D. Reardon of Adams, is an experienced school official and is apparently qualified by ability for the office of state commissioner. Objection to the appointment rests largely on the fact that an office which should be considered as beyond the penetration of politics has been seized by Gov Curley for a political appointment. The political character of the proceedings is the more emphasized by the governor's solemn farce of first submitting the name of the present incumbent, Dr Payson Smith, with full knowledge that it would not be confirmed. It is shown further in the tactics used by the governor, or other political agents, to obtain an indorsement of

Mr Reardon from a majority of the directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' federation. However, it will remain for teachers and school officials who are members of the federation to express their resentment against any actions of that body's officials. In New York city one teachers' organization has lately been split by the aggressive activities of a radical group, and if members of the Massachusetts Teachers' federation do not like the conduct of their directors they can elect a new board or withdraw from membership.

There is a substantial number of citizens who like to have public offices filled with the minimum reference to politics and who especially desire that incumbents who have "made good" shall be retained through different administrations as long as they are capable of rendering the best service. Gov Curley has endeavored to conciliate this group, which should be an ever-growing one, by reappointing Henry F. Long as commissioner of corporations and taxation. It had at first been hoped that Mr Curley would think these believers in good government worthy of a second concession in the office of the state commissioner of education, especially as numerous nonpartisan organizations had openly expressed a desire for the continuation of Mr Smith's service. Gov Curley thought otherwise, however, and another office has been placed within the range of political manipulation.

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GAZETTE  
Taunton, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Ousting of Payson Smith Is Condemned

### Gov. Curley Is Accused of Political Trickery in the Affair

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—The maneuver of the Governor's Council yesterday by which James G. Reardon of Adams was made State Commissioner of Education after Dr. Payson Smith had failed of confirmation was vigorously assailed last night by Councilor Winfield A. Schuster and Representative Philip G. Bowker as a "pre-arranged plan of the Governor to save his face."

Both Bowker and Schuster called the action of the Governor in first submitting the name of Smith a "mere gesture." Smith with Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley voting in his favor, was rejected, five to four. Reardon's name was then submitted and, with Lieut. Gov. Hurley voting for him, he was confirmed, six to three.

While the ousting of Smith, who held the important post for 19 years, was attacked, praise greeted the re-appointment of Commissioner of Public Safety Paul G. Kirk and Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation Henry F. Long, whose terms expired Dec. 1.

Persons close to the Governor said he intended to re-nominate Dr. Smith right along and did so notwithstanding information given to him at a caucus of the Democratic Councilors that they would reject the nomination. It is understood the Governor made little effort to have Dr. Smith confirmed.

The Democrats were in caucus for an hour and a half going into regular session to vote down Smith. In the brief interval while they were entering the Council chamber, Gov. Curley announced to the press that he would nominate Dr. Smith.

"If, however," said the Governor, "the Council should not take favorable action on Dr. Smith, I shall submit the name of James G. Reardon."

After voting down the Smith appointment the Council then voted to suspend the rules. With Lieut. Gov. Hurley out of the room the vote was passed, 5 to 3. Ordinarily a nomination is put over for a week. Suspend

*Continued*



Concluded

## Press Clipping Service

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Sentinel

Waterville, Me.

DEC 19 1935

# Payson Smith Fired as Head Mass. Schools

Ex-Maine Commissioner  
Has Been in Massachusetts  
For Two Decades

## James Reardon Is Successor

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—(P)—In five minutes today, Dr. Payson Smith, was ousted as state commissioner of education after almost two decades of service, and a dark horse among those mentioned to succeed him was appointed and confirmed.

After months of continuous agitation from teachers to reappoint Dr. Smith, who is 63, Governor James M. Curley submitted his name to the executive council, which rejected the nomination, 5 to 4.

Smith served as state superintendent of schools in Maine before coming to Massachusetts.

The governor immediately offered the name of James G. Reardon, 36-year-old superintendent of schools in Adams and the council just as quickly confirmed him as commissioner. The vote was 6 to 3, strictly on party lines.

Among numerous candidates mentioned as possibly successors to Dr. Smith, Reardon has received no special notice or support until last night, when a majority of directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation endorsed him. A minority favored Dr. Smith's retention.

Reardon styled himself a "100 per cent supporter" of the controversial state teachers' oath act, while Dr. Smith originally opposed it. How much weight was attached by the councillors to these attitudes of the respective candidates, however, was not immediately apparent.

Reardon's term of office is five years and his salary \$9,000.

While rejecting Dr. Smith's reappointment, the council confirmed reappointment of two other state

officials appointed before Governor Curley was elected.

One was Henry F. Long, state commissioner of taxation and corporations, in public service for many years. He was reappointed for a term of three years, at a salary of \$7,500.

Another was Paul G. Kirk, 31-year-old commissioner of public safety, appointed by Governor Curley's predecessor, Joseph B. Ely. He will serve five years at \$6,000 annually.

Governor Curley, explaining the council's vote on the Smith reappointment, said:

"I confessed with the Democratic members of the council concerning the Smith appointment before the council session, and with the exception of the lieutenant governor, they were all opposed to Mr. Smith."

Reardon, a Boston college graduate in 1923 and an American Legionnaire, studied also at Harvard and Boston Universities.

He has been superintendent at Adams for a year, going there after serving in the same capacity at East Bridgewater for eight years. He also had taught at East Bridgewater high school, and was principal for a year.

The council today deferred again action on the governor's appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as commissioner of agriculture.

sion of the rules made it possible for the Council to act at once on the Reardon appointment.

"I conferred with the Democratic members of the Council concerning the Smith appointment before the Council session," said Gov. Curley, "and, with the exception of the Lieutenant Governor, they were all opposed to him."

Councilor Schuster's statement: "As I see it, the whole thing was cut and dried. The vote of the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers favoring Reardon seems to have been engineered by the Governor. The sending of Smith's name was nothing more than a gesture of the Governor to save his face. Analysis shows that the submission of the name meant nothing."

"The despicable methods of Gov. Curley are now only too apparent," said Bowker. "His back-doo tactics in the case of Dr. Smith should not be overlooked. First, through his henchmen he maneuvered a vote through the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers to support Reardon for the position."

"This morning he held a caucus of the Democratic members of the Council behind closed doors. The Council then met and the Governor submitted Dr. Smith's name for reappointment. A vote of 5 to 4 rejected Smith. The Governor, acquiescing in Reardon's name and he was confirmed, 6 to 3."

"What a bluff on the part of the Governor! Does he think for one minute the public cannot see through this? By trying to save his own face and put his Councilors on the spot the Governor has stooped to tactics of the lowest sort and has only shown himself up."

Robert J. Watt, legislative secretary of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor, also attacked Reardon's appointment.

Gov. Curley said he had not yet decided what to do in the cases of Arthur T. Lyman, Commissioner of Correction; Raymond J. Kenney, director of fisheries and game, and Maj. George J. Cronin, state purchasing agent. The terms of all three have expired.

The Council put over for a third time the confirmation of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as Commissioner of Agriculture, but confirmed A. J. Lawlor of Lawrence as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy in place of William Hardie of Fall River.



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Woburn, Mass.

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# WINCHESTER

Some of the WPA workers received their checks yesterday about 2 o'clock, but the most of them did not get any pay, and the commissary department was a busy place during the day. It was reported around yesterday that men on some of the jobs were talking of quitting the work until they were paid, but this would be a mistake as the government is good pay and all will receive their pay in time, although this is a poor season of the year to hold up checks.

Lieut. Col. Paul Kirk, Commissioner of Public Safety in Massachusetts who was named again yesterday by Governor Curley for a five year term will get quite a greeting from the members of the Winchester Post, American Legion and their guests as he appears tonight at the monthly meeting of the post as its guest speaker.

Officer James Donaghey was obliged to go to the Mill Pond yesterday afternoon, and order boys off the dangerous ice. The boys were

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## From The Editor's Desk

Gov Curley has announced that he will repeat the recommendations of his inaugural message last year which called for biennial sessions of the Legislature, a reduction of 50 per cent in the present legislative membership and abolition of the governor's council. These changes, the governor states, would save \$1,000,000 annually.

A great many people agree with the governor but it is doubtful if any or all of the recommendations will be enacted any more than they were last year. Such recommendations involve a great change from the methods of the past, and aside from the personal element, which some legislators are charged with having, such drastic changes should be considered carefully before being adopted in order to determine the consequences.

# CUTTINGS

## CURLEY AS CANDIDATE

(From The Boston Transcript)

Not the least interesting quality possessed by Mr Curley's announcement of his senatorial candidacy is the bland assumption of certain success. He has made up his mind, he says, to go to the United States Senate to be part of the movement to change economic conditions for the benefit of the people of this country. The aim, of course, is commendable enough but it is just possible that the governor will later discover that he has spoken out of turn and that the people of the state, as represented first by Democrats voting in the primaries and second by the total electorate voting in the election, have different ideas on the subject. For one thing they may not want the kind of change in economic conditions which Mr Curley supports; or, if they do want it, they may prefer to have somebody else act as the instrument of execution.....

All in all, there is no occasion for Republicans to be alarmed by Mr Curley's decision to seek higher honors. He is not so strong as he was in 1934. Neither is the man whose name he invoked so often in that contest and on whose shoulders he really rode into office. Mr Curley can be beaten. If the election were to be held tomorrow, we are confident he would be beaten.

## THE CARNEGIE EXAMPLE

(From The New York Herald Tribune)

Perhaps the most extraordinary jog given to memories by the centennial of Andrew Carnegie's birthday was the extraordinary variety of his interests and gifts. In the public mind it is the scores of libraries which have become identified with the name. The amiable weakness for seeing his name carved in stone on a building has served, oddly enough, to push into the background many of the other fine gifts, the creations of a true generosity and a bold imagination.

Immortality is a willful jade, in short. She selects what appeals to her for public preservation, and neither organization nor the mere power of money can alter her decisions. Among the many different gifts, from the Peace Palace at The Hague to beloved Carnegie Hall in this city, it is undoubtedly the vast funds granted to education, both toward the betterment of the lot of the professor and, even more significant toward the advancement of research and learning, which best deserve to be Andrew Carnegie's monument. If the present celebration does nothing else than to remind the public of these great donations it will have justified itself.



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## Ely Put Forward by Curley Foes as Contender for Senate

**Walsh and Al Smith Might Take Stump to Throttle Governor's Aspirations, Washington Reports — Local Man Tells Reporters He Is Not Candidate for Any Public Office—Would Appeal to Many Republicans, It Is Felt**

Washington, Dec. 19—Whether or not Governor James M. Curley is ready to cross the Rubicon and make a bid for the Senate seat now held by Marcus A. Coolidge, Mr Curley's declaration of his senatorial intentions continues the outstanding topic of discussion among politically minded Bay Staters in the capital.

Democrats concede that the tide in New England is running strongly against the New Deal, so strongly indeed that most of the Democratic congressmen realize that their seats are in potential danger. The question of how can this tide be so checked and circumvented that congressional Democrats can still retain their seats is one which many are asking.

There is a growing conviction among some of the more experienced Democrats that their best bet next year is to cut loose from the New Deal, launch a barrage against the Roosevelt policies, and by so doing spike some of the guns of their Republican opponents. In line with this conviction there has been some talk here that former Governor Joseph B. Ely of Westfield had hitting New Deal critic, would make an admirable candidate of the anti-New Deal Democrats to take the measure of James M. Curley in the senatorial primaries.

### Ely in Public Eye

Ely delivered a frontal assault here recently on the planned economy of the New Deal. Although the former governor told reporters that he was not a candidate for the Senate or any other public office, he is still in the public eye through his thoughtful discussion of current issues.

Ely, it is argued—assuming Senator Coolidge retires from the picture—would make a strong appeal to many Republicans because of his record as governor, and his sweeping condemnation of New Deal regimentation and socialization. Without some Republican support, it is further argued, no Democrat, not even Curley, could win the senatorship from Massachusetts.

With respect to Curley's senatorial aspirations, there is some speculation here as to the attitude of Alfred E. Smith, who still has a legion of admirers among Democrats the country over. Curley led the Bay State

parade away from Al Smith in 1932, and the Smith men, both in Massachusetts and other states, have never forgiven Curley's desertion of the Happy Warrior.

Smith still continues his active and close interest in public affairs, and there are some here who believe that if an anti-New Deal Democrat entered the senatorial primaries against Curley, Smith might take the stump in Massachusetts in the former's behalf.

That Senator David I. Walsh would see in Curley anything but a welcome colleague in the Senate goes without saying. Friends of Walsh here, however, doubt whether the senior senator would take a hand in the senatorial primaries, either for or against Curley. The situation might change if a strong anti-New Deal dealer entered the lists against Curley. If this should happen, it is believed here that Walsh might take the stump.

In general, between elections Walsh has followed a strictly hands off policy in factional fights among Massachusetts Democrats. In view of the sharp criticism which he has delivered from time to time against many of the Roosevelt policies, it may be doubted whether Walsh next year will go down the line in Massachusetts for the New Deal and its candidates.

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## Guardsmen May Sleep In Tents on Cape Cod

Boston, Dec. 19—If Gov Curley's request for a \$2,000,000 federal allotment for construction of a national guard camp at Bourne falls through, members of the Massachusetts national guard will have an opportunity to live in tents and enjoy the rigors of outdoor military life next summer.

Determined to make some use of the land, which the state has purchased, the adjutant-general's office already has made plans to move the first contingent to the camp in June, even if no barracks have been constructed, it was announced. National guard officials said it might be impossible to move the heavy artillery to Bourne next year, especially if no barracks were ready.

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## Predicts Curley Will Not Be Nominated

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (P)—The Boston Traveler, in a copyrighted story, says Charles M. Hawks, Massachusetts' manager of the Townsend Pension Plan Club, predicted Gov. James M. Curley would not be nominated for the U. S. Senate.

"We have 30,000 registered Townsend Club members in Massachusetts," The Traveler quotes him as saying, "and we have 10 times that many signers of pledges. That makes 300,000 votes."

Referring to Curley's avowed plan of running for the Senate, the paper quotes Hawks as saying: "Curley won't get by the primaries. Every time he goes on the air and talks for Roosevelt's pauper-pension plan, he licks himself. A year ago we had 45 clubs in Massachusetts and now we have 154 clubs."

"I believe Mr. Roosevelt's New Deal will be repudiated by a tremendous decree in this State."



ITEM  
Wakefield, Mass.

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## Huey Long, Gov. Curley-- An Analogy

(By W. E. Mullins,  
in Boston Sunday Herald)

The Huey Long theme is somewhat shopworn as a political topic, yet there is a striking analogy in many respects between the public career of the late Louisiana senator and Gov. Curley's public career as he outlined it in retrospect last week.

The Kingfish first became Governor of his state, transformed the Democratic party there into a personal machine and used the great power of his office to get himself elected to the U. S. Senate, whence he operated the state government by remote control.

In the upbuilding of the Long party in Louisiana, Democrats like Mayor Walmsley of New Orleans, not parts of the great machine, were destroyed, and the state service was filled with Long satellites while Gov. O. K. Allen became his chief marionette back home in the cane brakes.

In Washington, Long's visions of establishing an empire with every man a king through the operation of his incredible share-the-wealth scheme of distributing property and money grew to such proportions as to strike fear into the heart of President Roosevelt as he viewed the mischievous possibilities.

Massachusetts, once one of the great conservative states of the Union and a bulwark of Democracy, has a Governor now proceeding toward the construction of a Curley party from which are excluded even those lifelong Democrats who supported Brig. Gen. Charles H. Cole against him only last year.

With his numerous appointments thus far and with a full year to go, he has the opportunity of filling the state service with men of his own personal choice who have been under obligation to him rather than to a political party.

### Hurley for Governor

As he prepares to drag Senator Marcus A. Coolidge out of his seat without so much as a by-your-leave, he also decides to name Lt. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley as his successor, undeniably with the intention of running Massachusetts from Washington.

In the use of violence there is no analogy. Long countenanced strong arm methods; but Gov. Curley does

not resort to violence. True, there are the isolated instances in which he cracked Fred Enwright on the noggin and slapped down Gael Coakley; but these were the indignant outbursts of a red-blooded two-fisted man.

The Governor's appeal for election will be made with an issue based on social security. As discussed by a man of his eloquence, such an appeal, with its rosy promises of security for the aged, the weak and the unfortunate in the great army of the unemployed, can sway thousands.

This appeal, however, differs only slightly from that employed by Huey Long. The difference between social security and share-the-wealth is only the difference between Tweedledee and Tweedledum. It is taking from those who have and giving to those who have not.

The prospect is not bright that anyone can persuade the great masses of the people that his promises for social security can no more be redeemed than have been his recent promises to provide work and wages for the jobless.

That he has failed to provide work and wages in abundance, as he promised, is demonstrated any morning in the week by the crowds who assemble outside his home to appeal for work and wages.

### Extent of Failure

Add to these unfortunates those nearby who do not go to the Jamaica way and those in every city in the commonwealth lacking the opportunity to journey there who do see the Governor, and one has only an idea of the extent of his failure and an explanation of why he has begun to crack under the strain of hopelessness from which he now decides he must escape.

It is probably true that no Governor could have solved the unemployment problem; but it is also true that no other candidate promised he would solve it. Work and wages, worn threadbare last year, can be cloaked next year in terms of social security to give his Republican opponent an idea of the sort of campaign he must wage.

The Governor's declaration that he proposes to go to the Senate, while not accepted generally as genuine in his own party, has resulted in creating an attitude of indifference toward the contest for the governorship. Its importance is not now so great as it was.

In the contest for Senate Mr. Curley will be opposed probably by Mayor Sinclair Weeks of Newton or Representative Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., of Beverly. Without casting any reflections on the various men seeking the Republican nomination for Governor, this shift on Mr. Curley's part means that he will be given more vigorous opposition, because either Weeks or Lodge is equipped to make a stand-up fight.

If the Governor has a better campaign issue as a candidate for senator, he also will have a sturdier opponent. The opponent, however, should be prepared to discuss the Townsend plan, old age pensions, a 30-hour work-week, unemployment insurance, and—possibly—work and wages again.

GAZETTE  
Worcester, Mass.

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## GENERAL COURT FACES BATTLES

Second Session of 149th  
Legislature to Be Marked  
by Fights on Income Tax  
and Teachers' Oath

## OUSTER OF MANSFIELD TO CAUSE CONTROVERSY

By GENE LORICK

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (INS)—Efforts to boost the state income tax revenue and to repeal the controversial Teachers' Oath Law loomed today as the biggest battles confronting the incoming Legislature. The session appears destined to be as hectic as any in history.

Proposals facing the solons on Beacon Hill would place two hundred thousand new contributors on state tax rolls through reduction of exemptions and a shift of the tax on manufacturing machinery to inventories on stocks of non-manufacturing concerns.

Jobs of half the Representatives and Senators will be at stake when the 1936 session opens two weeks hence. Governor Curley announced his annual message will sound a tocsin for a new struggle to slash the Legislature in half and provide for biennial sessions.

### Resume of Tasks

Here is a brief resume of outstanding problems facing the Legislature—the "second annual session of the 149th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts"—some of which may be written into the statutes and others snowed under in the battle of ballots in House or Senate:

Reduce state income tax exemptions for unmarried persons from two thousand dollars to one thousand four hundred dollars and exemption for husband and wife from two thousand five hundred dollars to one thousand nine hundred dollars.

Revise compulsory Automobile Insurance Law, with respect to the recent Supreme Court decision which stated it was not necessary to show gross negligence to collect from an automobile owner if injuries are suffered in his car.

Eliminate the Executive Council, to be recommended in the proposals for legislation in the message of Governor Curley.

*Continued*



*Concluded*  
Ouster of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield. Senator Joseph A. Landon, Jr., filed a bill providing for referendum next March.

#### More Racing Income

Increase the income to the state by boosting the "take" from 3½ per cent to 5 per cent on horses and from 3½ to 10 per cent on dogs.

Abolish capital punishment, a continuation of the long fight of opponents of the electric chair.

Extend the 48-hour work week, in effect in state institutions, to county institutions.

Place the State Police Constabulary under Civil Service.

Raze the old State's Prison at Charlestown and construct a new institution on the present site or in some other location.

Lower the age limit for state welfare recipients from 70 to 65.

Broaden and clarify statutes prohibiting illegal practice of law.

Liberalize laws pertaining to labor.

Prevent employment by the state of married women whose husbands hold jobs which could amply support both.

A total of 250 bills has been filed to date—202 in the House, 60 fewer than last year on this date, and 48 in the Senate. The deadline for filing bills is 1 p. m. Jan. 11.

#### TELEGRAM Worcester, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

#### A Hurley for the Republican Ticket

Massachusetts Republicans are so engrossed in the choice of the head of next year's state ticket—and an engrossing question it is!—that there is reason to fear they are not giving enough attention to the less conspicuous offices. And yet the quality of the nominees for the less conspicuous offices can make or break the ticket on election day. That is so well understood that the point need not be labored.

In making up next year's slate, the Republicans of Massachusetts would be well-advised, it seems to us, to consider the claims of William E. Hurley to the nomination for State Treasurer and Receiver-General. Not that Mr. Hurley is putting forth claims in his own behalf; we are not aware of his desires in the matter. What interests us is the opportunity which his presence on the ticket would give the Republican party to capitalize one of the most outrageous bits of spoils-grabbing that we know of. And besides Mr. Hurley is admirably fitted for the state treasurership.

William E. Hurley—a Republican Hurley, by the way—was the Boston postmaster up to a short time ago. He was a career man, having started as a letter-carrier back in 1898. After service as a postal inspector, he became assistant postmaster in 1915, holding the place until 1931 when President Hoover advanced him to the postmastership in succession to Colonel

Gow. His promotion met with universal approval, and particularly the approval of Boston businessmen. His administration came up to expectations.

But President Roosevelt and Postmaster-General Farley have refused to reappoint him. More than that, they so maneuvered that he is now out of a job, his long career in the postal service gone for nothing. And they refused to reappoint him despite the appeals of Senator Walsh, despite the appeals of Boston businessmen, and despite the unanimous appeals of the Boston press. Senator Walsh, it may be remembered, came in for bitter denunciation from the Democratic spoilsmen because he had the temerity to urge the reappointment of the Republican Mr. Hurley on the sole ground of merit.

Nor did the spoils-grabbers live up even to the rules of their own game. At the head of the eligible list to succeed Mr. Hurley stood General Charles H. Cole, twice the nominee of the Democratic party for Governor of the Commonwealth. Unfeelingly he was passed over, and former Congressman Tague, reputedly sponsored by Governor Curley, was given the place. The deed, however, was not perpetrated without a preliminary prolonged spell of nervous hesitation on the part of the President and his Postmaster-General.

This scandalous episode has elicited protests from far beyond the borders of Boston. It has been commented upon by newspapers throughout the country as an example of what the brazen application of the spoils system can do towards breaking down efficiency and morale in government service. It furnishes a revealing glimpse into the methods which are being employed by the spoilsmen of the Roosevelt Administration.

The more people in Massachusetts who understand the facts in this case, the greater the chance of the Republicans to triumph in the state next year. It is difficult to think of more effective way of spreading such an understanding than to have William E. Hurley on the Republican state ticket.



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GAZETTE  
Worcester, Mass.  
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# HEARING MONDAY ON GARDNER CASE

## CURLEY HEEDS PROTESTS ON COMMUTATION

Asks Council Committee to  
Sit That Day to Hear Any  
Who Oppose Pardon for  
"Firebug"

### WORCESTER POLITICS ALLEGED IN MOVE

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—A public hearing in connection with protests from Worcester regarding recommended commutation of sentence of Henry A. Gardner was ordered late this afternoon by Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley,

chairman of the Pardons Committee. It will be Monday at 10 a. m. in the Council chamber, State House.

By CLINTON P. ROWE,  
Gazette State House Reporter

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—Heeding protests from Worcester against commutation of sentence which he recommended for Henry A. Gardner, convicted on charges of setting fire to All Saints' Church and Pleasant-Street Baptist Church, Governor Curley today asked the Pardons Committee of the Governor's Council to conduct a hearing Monday at 10 a. m. for anyone desiring to protest the recommendation. The committee complied.

The Governor made this announcement in a statement which he issued after learning of the wave of protest that swept Worcester following news that he had

recommended that Gardner's 10-to-12-year sentence be commuted to 4 to 12 years, making him eligible for parole.

In his statement the Governor referred to the Christmas season and asserted that all officials connected with the penal department and with corrections were unanimous in recommending clemency for Gardner.

#### Curley Statement

The Governor said the protest made by certain church dignitaries of Worcester against recommendation for commutation of sentence in the case of Henry A. Gardner from 10 to 12 years to four to 12 years, of which sentence he has served four years, and, in the event of parole would have an opportunity to spend Christmas Day for the first time in four years with his family and relatives, has been of such character that I have decided to refer protests to the committee on pardons of the Governor's Council which meets two days prior to Christmas, on Monday, Dec. 23, at 10 a. m., in the Council Chamber, State House, Boston.

"My approval of commutation in this case was based upon the fact that it was one of the few cases where every official connected with the Penal Department and with corrections were unanimous in their approval of a commutation of sentence, a recommendation having been approved by Commissioner of Corrections Lyman, Chairman of the Parole Board Richard Olney, Matthew W. Bullock and P. Emmet Galvin of the Parole Board, also Warden Francis J. W. Lanigan and Supt. Maurice Winslow of the State Prison Colony.

"The recommendation in this case was based, so far as I have



been able to ascertain, on the fact that the man had served four years, that it was his first offense and that unquestionably he was not in his right mind at the time the offense was committed, being under the influence of liquor.

#### Welcome to Hearing

"If a protest is justified in this case by those men who teach the doctrine of forgiveness and they are influential in their views, even in the shadow of Christmas and all that it conveys, then there is no way to justify granting of pardons or commutations to any offender.

"I am quite sure the committee on pardons of the Governor's Council will accept any recommendation and grant a hearing to those who have voiced a protest and any individual desiring to appear in objection to approval by the pardon committee of the Governor's Council to the granting of same is at liberty to be present at the session of that body to be held in the Council chamber Monday at 10 a. m."

Councilor Frank A. Brooks of Watertown, after spending some time studying folders of the Gardner case and four others recommended for commutation of sentence by the Governor yesterday, said he opposed clemency for Gardner.

#### Council Will Meet

"After studying the case I can see no reason whatever why I should vote for commutation of Gardner's sentence," he said. "There appears to be nothing to justify clemency in his case."

The Pardons Committee was scheduled to meet Monday to consider the recommendations, but no arrangements had been made for a public hearing. The council will be on hand, ready to meet at noon to act on the Pardons Committee report.

In the continued absence of word from the Governor's office as to the identity of those who instigated the move for a parole for Henry A. Gardner, there were reports in Worcester today that local "politics" was concerned. These rumors grew out of talk that relatives of Gardner were active in behalf of Democratic candidates in the recent city campaign.

Persons versed in political lore said the move to free Gardner really had its beginning last Summer, when certain contacts were suggested, but the matter was deferred because Gardner then had been too recently sentenced for confessedly starting the four hundred thousand dollar fire in All Saints' Church, attempting to fire Pleasant Street Baptist Church and setting ablaze several other buildings on the West Side. They say the plan was set aside for the time being, but it gained new headway this Fall.

The prescribed procedure when a petition for a pardon is received by the Governor is for the chief executive to forward the petition to the Board of Parole, which conducts a public hearing on the question. Then after the pros and cons are heard the prisoner is brought before the board to voice reasons why he should be freed. The Parole Board then makes its recommendations to the Governor's Council and that body may accept or reject the suggestion.

That no attempt had been made locally to ascertain the disposition of either victims or the police in this matter was established today. This is contrary to custom in such matters. Officials of All Saints' Church and Pleasant Street Baptist Church said they had no knowledge of the proposal before they read of it in The Evening Gazette last night. Police said they had no prior knowledge of the plan to free Gardner.

#### Action Rushed Here

Meanwhile today opposition to the proposal was gaining momentum in Worcester. Officials of Pleasant Street Baptist Church were furthering their plans to fortify a resolution drafted last night to oppose the pardon by having representatives contact the Pardons Committee of the Governor's Council before that body meets Monday morning to consider the Gardner case and others.

Individually officials of All Saints' Church either voiced opposition to the proposal or suggested that at least the matter be viewed from the standpoint of community welfare before any pardon is granted. W. Emory Wardwell, treasurer of the church, said he would emphatically oppose any plan to commute the sentence of Gardner. Rev. Richard G. Preston, rector, said the matter was primarily one of community protection and added that "a confirmed pyromaniac, liable to repeat his act, would be a menace to the community and not to any particular individual or church. He said if the release of the prisoner is being considered "it would seem as though there ought to be strong evidence and conviction that he is not likely to commit such a crime again."

It was recalled today that the question of length of sentence for Gardner was vigorously fought between former District Attorney Edwin G. Norman, who prosecuted Gardner, and the late Charles F. Campbell, who defended him. Mr. Campbell sought to have the sentence set at five to seven years, and Mr. Norman wanted the sentence fixed at 12 to 14 years. It was finally established by Judge Raoul H. Beaudreau at 10 to 12 years.

#### Heavy Loss Factor

In his plea for leniency Mr. Campbell argued that Gardner was not a pyromaniac, but had set all the fires while he was on a drinking bout. Mr. Campbell said Gardner had won a considerable sum of money in a pool and that he had been unable to resist the attempt to be a "good fellow" in speakeasies, had accordingly been drinking heavily and had set the fire while he was under the influence of liquor.

The heavy loss at All Saints' Church, however, was said to have been a vital factor in causing the longer sentence.

Commutation of the sentence is being sought so that legally Gardner may be eligible for a pardon. If the sentence is commuted to read from four to 12 instead of 10 to 12 years Gardner will have served more than half of the minimum term.

Official Worcester has declined comment on the matter pending action by the Governor's Council. Chief of Police Foley and Superintendent of Detectives William P. Finneran both declined to make a statement, though each said they had no previous knowledge of the

move to pardon Gardner. Sen. John S. Sullivan said he had no part in the move to free Gardner. Mr. Norman said he would withhold comment until he had more information. Lieut. Robert E. Molt, state fire inspector, who questioned Gardner at the time of his arrest and conviction, also declared he had nothing to say.

#### Other Fires Charged

Deputy Fire Chief Fred S. Taylor, who fought the Gardner fires, said he would favor leniency if it were established that Gardner had quit the drinking which caused him to set the fires.

Gardner's incendiarism threw the city into a state of fear in the latter part of 1931 and early in 1932. In addition to the fire at All Saints' Church and Pleasant Street Baptist Church he was charged with having fired the home of Rev. Joseph Rogers at 13 Ashland street and buildings on Fruit and Chatham streets.

He was arrested by Patrolman Ernest J. Rose of Station 1 Jan. 25, when he was seen standing near a fire-alarm telegraph box at Pleasant and West streets and acting suspiciously. He was questioned at length, finally admitting setting the small fires and then finally broke down and confessed to the All Saints' Church incendiarism. He was tested for sanity at Worcester State Hospital, found sane, tried and sentenced in February.

Gardner was married little more than six months when he was convicted. His wife obtained a divorce and custody of their child, born after he was sentenced, after a hearing before Probate Court here June 23, 1934.

*Continued*



## Result of Gardner's Incendiarism



What was left in the early morning of that cold day in January, 1932, after Henry A. Gardner (inset at left) the torch to the imposing All Saints' Church structure. The picture shows the main body of the church a mass of cha

*concluded.*



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TELEGRAM  
Worcester, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# CHURCH FIGHTS CURLEY FIREBUG PAROLE

## PLEASANT ST. BAPTISTS RAP GARDNER CASE

Adopt Resolution Against  
Governor's Move to  
Cut Sentence

'UNPUNISHED,' CLAIM

All Saints' Official Also  
Opposes Plan; Formal  
Action Pending

Governor Curley's recommendation that the state prison sentence of Henry A. Gardner, 32, of Worcester, convicted of setting the fires which destroyed All Saints' Episcopal Church and damaged Pleasant Street Baptist Church in January, 1932, be commuted to make the convict eligible for immediate parole, met with sharp and immediate opposition last night.

The Governor's recommendation addressed yesterday to the Council, will be considered Monday morning at 10 a. m. by the Pardons committee of the council.

Last night Pleasant Street Baptist Church, following its regular weekly prayer meeting, adopted a sharply worded resolution of protest, copies of which will be sent to the Governor and to Councilor Winfield A. Schuster. Gardner has not yet had "sufficient time for adequate punishment," the resolve said.

The Governor recommended that the 10 to 12 year sentence imposed on Gardner on five counts of incendiarism be lessened to four to 12 years.

### Would Be Eligible

This would automatically make Gardner eligible for parole, for he has served practically four years, two-thirds of what would be, under the Governor's recommendation, the minimum sentence. (The first requirement for parole eligibility is to have served two-thirds the minimum.)

Immediately after the Governor's announcement, W. Emory Wardwell, a vestryman and treasurer of All Saints' Church, declared he was emphatically against the commutation of the Gardner sentence and that he was opposed to parole, although formal action by the church will await the next meeting of the vestrymen.

The All Saints' fire caused a loss of more than four hundred thousand dollars. Only a few hours before, Pleasant Street Baptist Church had been saved from serious damage by the timely discovery of an incendiary fire. Gardner was convicted, Feb. 20, 1932 on indictments of setting these two and three other fires in residential buildings on the West Side. Testimony was that he had been drinking.

### To Curley, Schuster

At Pleasant Street Baptist Church last night Moderator Howard C. Dunn presented the resolution to

the membership, which adopted it unanimously and voted that copies be forwarded by special delivery letter to both Governor Curley and Councilor Schuster.

The resolution:

"Pleasant Street Baptist Church protests the plan to commute this man's sentence, on the grounds that sufficient time for adequate punishment has not been served as yet. The church protests a parole for this man, Henry A. Gardner, and we feel that it is not for the best interests of our community for the prisoner to have his liberty at this time."

Before the meeting, Rev. Lester C. Holmes, pastor of the church, said: "I am decidedly against the commutation of Gardner's sentence. He is too dangerous a man to have around. I will protest any effort to commute the sentence."

Other members of the parish spoke in similar vein.

No delegations have been named, but it was apparent that influential members of both the All Saints' and the Pleasant Street Baptist parishes would either appear or have representatives contact the Pardons Committee when it meets Monday morning.

### Decision Monday

Monday noon the full Council will meet to act on whatever recommendation its Pardons committee makes.

The Governor declared that the announcement of his recommendations for Gardner, and other commutations, was premature; and the Governor's aides would not allow the folders in the cases to be examined. These folders carry the court and prison records and the names of those sponsoring and representing the convicts.

Senator John S. Sullivan said last night that he had no part in the move to obtain a commutation of the sentence. He said he obtained his first information that such a recommendation had been made by Governor Curley from the newspapers.

The proposed executive clemency for Gardner was made public by John H. Backus, assistant secre-

*continued*



tary of Governor Curley, who handles pardon applications. The Governor announced that further information would not be made public until later, and indicated that some councilors wanted the information to remain with him.

Governor's Councilor Schuster, who represents the Worcester district, indicated that he might oppose Governor Curley's recommendation in the Gardner case. He said he did not know who was behind the move, but indicated, however, a belief that the matter originated with the prisoner.

#### Police Silent

Worcester police officials were unwilling to discuss the Gardner case, or the prospect that he may become eligible for pardon.

Both Chief Thomas F. Foley and Superintendent of Detectives William P. Finneran withheld comment.

Former District Attorney Edwin G. Norman, who prosecuted the Gardner case, said he had received no official notice of proposed executive clemency.

"However," he said, "there may be conditions existing now that did not exist at the time he was on trial and when he was sentenced. If my opinion on the case is officially requested, I will then express my opinion."

Lieut. Robert E. Molt, in charge of arson cases under the State Fire Marshal, assisted in questioning Gardner after his arrest. He also declined comment.

#### Taylor Comment

Deputy Fire Chief Fred S. Taylor, who fought the blazes which Gardner was found guilty of setting, said, however:

"If the man has cleared up his freakishness and has stopped drinking, I believe he is entitled to his freedom. He admitted that he only set fires when drinking. If he is no longer drinking, I would be lenient."

#### Background of Case

Patrolman Ernest J. Rose of Station 1 arrested Gardner five days after the All Saints' Church fire as Gardner was standing near a fire alarm box at Pleasant and West streets. Gardner at that time made his home in 3 West street.

The trial before a Superior Court jury lasted a week and he was found guilty on Feb. 20, 1932, and sentenced by Judge Raoul H. Beaudreau on Feb. 27, 1932. He had been found sane by alienists at Worcester State Hospital.

The government presented a purported confession by Gardner as its most important factor in the case. Gardner later denied making the confession, but it was admitted as part of the evidence.

The crimes charged to Gardner were all in the West Side district where he then made his home. In addition to the two church fires, police claimed that Gardner set fire to the piazza of the home occupied by Rev. Joseph Rogers, then assistant rector of All Saints' Church. The building was at 13 Ashland street, near the church. In addition, the police charged Gardner with the fire at Fruit street where a score of persons were endangered. Another fire on Chatham street was attributed to him.

All the fires occurred either late at night or in the early morning. Police at the time quoted Gardner as saying that he drank heavily in speakeasies before the fires.

## Scores Expect Early Release

BOSTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—Scores of inmates in Massachusetts penal institutions, including two serving life sentences for murder, were gladdened tonight by news of their expected release by Christmas.

Governor Curley announced that two hundred persons serving sentences for drunkenness at the State Farm alone would be paroled next week.

On the other hand, Richard Olney, chairman of the Board of Paroles, set the State Farm figure at "a little more than one hundred," many of whom, he added "would have been freed at that time anyway."

The gates of the women's reformatory at Sherborn will be opened for 20 women Governor Curley said, and the State Board of Parole, he added, has authorized the release of 15 serving sentences at Concord by Christmas and 14 more by Jan. 31.

Announcement of the Christmas "gift" paroles was made prior to the meeting of his executive council at which the Governor recommended clemency for five inmates of the State Prison through commutation of their sentences to make them eligible for parole.

Action on the Governor's recommendation was deferred by the council until a special session next Monday.

One of the lifers is Samuel Powers of Westfield, imprisoned since 1914 for the murder of his wife.

The other is Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in 1920 for murdering Mary B. Lavoie. It was understood he would be deported to Poland.

The commutations of sentences recommended by Governor Curley were, besides Gardner's:

Samuel Powers of Westfield, sentenced to life imprisonment, Feb. 20, 1914, in Hampden Superior Court for wife murder. Recommends commutation of sentence to one of 20 years.

Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced to life imprisonment in Essex Superior Court, April 20, 1920, for murder of Mary Lavoie. Recommends commutation of sentence to one of 20 years, with the understanding Birusz will be deported to Poland.

## Proposed Freedom Disputed



HENRY A. GARDNER

*concluded*



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DEC 19 1935

# Curley Defends Gardner Pardon

## Claims All Penal and Corrections Officials Favored Commutation of Gardner's Sentence

(Special to The Post)

STATE HOUSE, Boston, Dec. 19.—Although pointing out that his approval of commutation was based on the unanimous recommendation of "every official connected with the penal department and with corrections," Gov. James M. Curley today announced he had requested the pardons committee of the Executive Council to give a hearing at 10 a. m. Monday to any persons desiring to protest against the proposed clemency for Harry A. Gardner of Worcester, who is now serving a 10 to 12 years sentence for maliciously burning a building.

### Statement

Frank A. Brooks, of Watertown, Republican member of the Executive Council, today joined with the Pleasant Street Baptist Church of Worcester in opposing commutation of sentence and parole for Henry A. Gardner, 32, of Worcester. Brooks said he could see no reason for commutation.

Gardner was convicted in 1932 of setting fires that destroyed All Saints' Episcopal Church and damaged the Pleasant Street Church.

Curley supported the recommendation he sent to the Council yesterday for commutation of Gardner's 10 to 12 year sentence to four to 12 years, making him eligible for parole immediately.

The Governor's announcement is contained in the following statement which he issued after published reports of protests filed by Worcester clergymen and parishioners had been called to his attention:

"The protest made by certain church dignitaries of Worcester against the recommendation for commutation of sentence in the case of Henry A. Gardner from 10 to 12 years to 4 to 12 years of which sentence he has served four years, and, in the event of parole, would have an opportunity to spend Christmas Day for the first time in four years with his family and relatives, has been of such character that I have decided to refer the protest to the committee on pardons of the Governor's council which meets two days prior to Christmas, on Monday, Dec. 23, at 10 a. m. at the council chamber, State House, Boston.

"My approval of the commutation in this case was based upon the fact that it was one of the few cases where

every official connected with the penal department and with corrections were unanimous in their approval of the commutation of sentence. A recommendation having been approved by commissioner of corrections, Mr. Lyman, chairman of the parole board, Richard Olney, Mathew W. Bullock and P. Emmett Gavin, also by Warden Francis J. W. Lannigan and Supt. Maurice Winslow of the state prison colony.

"The recommendation in this case was based, so far as I have been able to ascertain, on the fact that the man had served four years, that it was his first offense, and that unquestionably he was not in his right mind at the time the offense was committed, being under the influence of liquor. If a protest is justified in this case by those men who teach the doctrine of forgiveness, and they are influenced in their views even in the shadow of Christmas and all that it conveys, then there is no way to justify granting pardons or commutations to any offender.

"I am quite sure that the committee on pardons of the Governor's Council will accept my recommendation and grant a hearing to those who have voiced a protest and any individual desiring to appear in objection to approval by the pardon committee of the Governor's Council to the granting of same is at liberty to be present at the session of that body to be held in the council chamber, Monday at 10 a. m."

## Brooks Is Opposed to Commuting Sentence

(Special to The Post)

STATE HOUSE, Boston, Dec. 19.—Councilor Frank A. Brooks of Watertown declared today, "I have examined carefully the folder in the Gardner case and can find absolutely no reason whatever why I should vote for the recommended commutation of sentence."

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## Under Fire



The resignation of Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield (above), as mayor of Boston, was demanded by Gov. James M. Curley, in a furious dispute over the conduct of the Massachusetts metropolis' affairs. Curley charged Mansfield with incompetence, while Mansfield attributed his difficulties to the debt accumulated while Curley was mayor.



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## SMITH REJECTION CAUSES RUMBLINGS

State Advisory Board of Education Said to Object

By Gazette State House Reporter

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—Rumblings of dissatisfaction were reported today in the wake of the replacement yesterday by Governor Curley of Commissioner of Education Payson Smith, who was succeeded by James G. Reardon, superintendent of the Adams Schools.

It was reported that dissatisfaction over the change exists in the State Advisory Board of Education and that the members of the board, or some of them, would meet to discuss the matter.

According to reports, there were threats that resignations from the board might result in Smith's replacement under confirmation of the Governor's Council yesterday of Reardon.

"I had rather not be quoted about the matter," said one member of the board. "I wouldn't want to say there wouldn't be a meeting. You can't tell what might happen in the next 10 or 12 hours. I am only one member of the board."

Mrs. Anna Power of Worcester, a member of the advisory board, said today she had no knowledge of any meeting or of the reported movement.

The Governor first sent in the name of Commissioner Smith for reappointment, with the announcement that if he were not confirmed that the name of Reardon would be submitted.

Afterward he said that at a conference with the six Democratic council members that only Lieut. Gov. Joseph L. Hurley favored retaining Smith.

Although voting to retain Smith, the Lieutenant Governor voted to confirm Reardon after the Smith appointment had been rejected.

### Reardon Takes Office

As he swore Commissioner Reardon into office today, Governor Curley said he did not believe Mr. Smith's education and training for the post was any greater than that of the new commissioner. He wished Commissioner Reardon every success.

Asserting that none is indispensable, the Governor said that "if we were all to drop dead tomorrow other men and women would take our places who are even better qualified than we ever could be. This applies to the Education Department as well as any other

place. You have a real responsibility and I am confident you will discharge it."

After asserting that he would uphold the high traditions of the office to which he has been appointed, Commissioner Reardon said that as long as the teachers oath law is a law there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law-abiding citizen. Those who feel that the oath is not necessary can have recourse to the Constitutional method of changing the law."

Concerning the observance of the law, the commissioner said he could see no objection to any educator taking an oath which "obligates him only to the performance of what is a clear duty, an oath similar in most respects to that taken by lawyers and by many public officials in the state."

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State House

### Briefs

Governor Curley tonight continued his series of radio talks on the Social Security program.

Wycliffe C. Marshall, Watertown lawyer, today filed a bill in the Legislature to establish the "State Board of Massachusetts." The bill provides the first meeting shall be held in Worcester. The duties of the organization would be to set up a board of governors to establish a code of legal ethics subject to approval of the Supreme Court. The board would also act on disbarment proceedings, subject to court review.

Joseph E. Warner, former attorney general, will speak at a banquet of the New England Society in Brooklyn tonight.

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## As Kirk Took Office



Photo (c) International Newsreel

Governor Curley administering the oath of office again to Commissioner of Public Safety Paul G. Kirk.



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DEC 19 1935

## Schuster Probes Gardner Record

### Church Officials Protest Parole Plan of Gov. Curley

Winfield A. Schuster of East Douglas, member of the Governor's Council, said today that he is to make a personal investigation into the record of Henry A. Gardner, 32, convicted firebug, of this city, who Gov. James M. Curley said yesterday he is considering letting out of state prison.

#### Storm of Protest

The Governor's declaration that he is preparing to recommend to the executive council that Gardner's sentence of from 10 to 12 years imposed in February of 1932 be commuted met a storm of protest from members of Pleasant Street Baptist Church last night. Gardner set a fire in this church as well as one that destroyed All Saints Church in midwinter of 1932.

The Pleasant Street Baptist Church officials last night prepared a sharp-worded resolution of protest and copies are being sent to the Governor and to Mr. Schuster. They do not think that Gardner, who terrorized the West Side, has been sufficiently punished for his acts.

The pardons committee of the executive council will consider the recommendation for commutation for Gardner at 10 o'clock Monday morning.

Said Mr. Schuster this morning: "I am not too familiar with Mr. Gardner's case, but I heard rumblings last night of protest against the commutation of his sentence.

"With the knowledge I now have of the case I am not prepared to say whether I think the reported recommendation of the Governor should be acted upon favorably to Gardner or not. What I intend to do, and do at once, is to make a personal investigation into Gardner's whole record, and talk also with the officials of the office of Dist.-Atty. Owen A. Hoban, who will be prepared to furnish me with such data as I now want."

Gov. Curley announced today that about 200 prisoners serving sentences at the Bridgewater State Farm for drunkenness charges will be freed by him next week. Richard Olney, chairman of the Board of Paroles, formerly of this city, said though that the number is a few more than 100 and that these men would have been freed anyway.

It is the plan of the Governor to have 20 women at the Women's Reformatory at Sherborn released, and

the Board of Parole has authorized parole of 15 prisoners at Conford Reformatory by Christmas and 14 more by Jan. 31.

The resolution in respect to Gardner prepared by members of the Pleasant Street Baptist Church followed the midweek meeting of the congregation.

Gov. Curley has recommended that Gardner's sentence be commuted to four to 12 years in State Prison. This would allow of immediate parole.

Under the Governor's recommendation, Gardner would then have served at least two thirds of the minimum of his sentence which would be four years. The original sentence was imposed by Judge Raoul J. Beaudreau of Marlboro after Gardner had been on trial in Superior Court for a week in February of 1932.

He was convicted on five counts. Police at that time maintained that he confessed to a number of other fires. His defense was an attempt at alibi, and an explanation that for two weeks before the several fires he is claimed to have set that he had been drinking heavily.

Gardner is married, and at the time of his conviction was father of a baby a few months old.

W. Emory Wardwell, a vestryman, at All Saints Church, says that he is emphatically against the commutation action recommended by the Governor. It has been intimated that formal action in the matter may be taken at the next meeting of the vestrymen.

The resolution by the members of the Pleasant Street Church as adopted and forward to the Governor and Mr. Schuster reads as follows:

"Pleasant Street Baptist Church protests the plan to commute this man's sentence, on the grounds that sufficient time for adequate punishment has not been served as yet. The church protests a parole for this man, Henry A. Gardner, and we feel that it is not for the best interests of our community for the prisoner to have his liberty at this time."

There were indications that the church may be represented at the meeting of the pardons committee of the executive council on Monday.

Last night the Governor announced that making public of his reported plans to have Gardner's sentence commuted were premature. His office refused to divulge for the time being at least, those sponsoring the move.

Former Dist. Atty. Edwin G. Norman, who prosecuted the Gardner case, said that he desires to express no opinion in the matter now. He said that there may be circumstances about Gardner's case at the present of which he may not be aware.

Lieut. Robert E. Molt of the State Police, fire marshal, has declined to comment, while Deputy Chief Fred S. Taylor of the fire department says that perhaps Gardner has overcome a desire to drink and the freakishness of wanting, when he is drinking, to set fires.

### Claims Case Is One of Community Protection

The Rev. Richard Greeley Preston, rector of All Saints Church, when asked this morning what action the church would take on the proposal of the Governor to release Gardner, said, "As far as I know, the opinion is that this matter primarily one of community protection and not merely protection for All Saints Church. If Gardner is to be released there must be

a strong conviction that he is not a confirmed pyro-maniac.

### Wild Rumor Denied By Adjutant-General

Adjutant General William I. Rose of Worcester this afternoon at the State House denied a rumor that he was in back of the move to have Gardner's sentence commuted.

"I've heard a lot of wild rumors," said the general, "but that is the wildest one I've heard. I have nothing at all to do with that department and naturally I would not know anything about it."

Reference to 'that department' by the general meant the Parole Board.

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### Reardon Takes Oath As State Commissioner

BOSTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—James G. Reardon, 36, superintendent of schools in Adams, was sworn in today by Gov. James M. Curley as Massachusetts commissioner of education.

The young educator, whose nomination was confirmed yesterday by the Executive Council after that body declined to approve the reappointment of Dr. Payson Smith, took the oath of office in the Executive chambers in the presence of relatives and friends.

In brief remarks, after he administered the oath, Gov. Curley told the new commissioner he was certain Reardon was well qualified to fill the office.

in this case was based upon the fact that it was one of the few cases where



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## REARDON GETS SMITH'S BERTH

**Stiff Governor's Council  
Fight For Education  
Head Futile**

**NO MURPHY ACTION**

**Curley 'Hasn't Decided' on  
Fate of Corrections  
And Game Chiefs**

By CLINTON P. ROWE  
Telegram State House Reporter  
BOSTON, Dec. 18. — A "dark

horse" was appointed and confirmed as State Commissioner of Education today after a stiff fight in the Governor's Council had failed to keep in office Dr. Payson Smith, whose retention had been demanded widely for months by educational and leaders' groups.

James G. Reardon, superintendent of the public schools in Adams was appointed and confirmed 6 to 3, straight party lines, by the council after Smith's appointment had been rejected 5 to 4, with Lieutenant Governor Hurley voting to confirm.

Reardon, 35 years old, has styled himself a "100 per cent supporter of the teachers' oath"; Doctor Smith, ousted after two decades of state service, originally opposed the oath. What weight their oath stands bore with the council was not immediately apparent.

Reardon's term is five years, his salary nine thousand dollars.

The holdover appointments of Commissioner of Public Safety Paul G. Kirk and Tax Commissioner Henry F. Long were sent to the Council by Governor Curley. Both were unanimously confirmed. The Governor indicated he would reappoint Commissioner Long, but had withheld comment on Commissioner Kirk, for whose job many of the faithful had clamored. Kirk packs support of such character as to assure his reappointment, although it is said he made few, if any, overtures.

For a second time action was refused by the Council on the Governor's appointment of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville, "dirt farmer" and holder of a mail carrying contract. Murphy's appointment to succeed Edgar L. Gillett and one of the several in the Governor's

sweep of major appointive offices, has been widely opposed by farmer interests.

Governor Curley said he had not decided on reappointing or replacing Raymond J. Kenney as director of the Division of Fisheries and Game; Arthur T. Lyman as commissioner of corrections or Major George J. Cronin as state purchasing agent. The terms of Kenney and Lyman expired Dec. 1 and Cronin's term ended Dec. 13.

### Only Hurley Opposed

After the Council meeting, the Governor said that a conference he held with Democratic members disclosed only Lieut. Gov. Hurley opposed to rejecting Smith's appointment, subject of an extended campaign of retention for several weeks. The conference lasted an hour and a half.

The Republican members, Councilors Winfield A. Schuster of East Douglas, Joseph B. Grossman of Quincy, with Mr. Hurley, voted to confirm Smith. The three Republicans voted against Reardon's confirmation.

### Second Differences

It was the second time that Lieut. Gov. Hurley had opposed a Curley appointment. The first instance was when he voted against Thomas H. Green, Boston city councilor, named by the Governor to succeed James M. Hurley of Marlboro as civil service commissioner. That vote was recorded after Mr. Hurley had announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Governor, following Curley's announcement he would run for the Senate.

The Governor several days ago termed Long an "efficient state officer." Long began his state service as private secretary to Gov. Calvin Coolidge. There had been no indication concerning Kirk's reappointment, but it was reported the subject of some behind the scenes maneuvering in view of his affiliations, with advice to the Governor centering on reappointment.

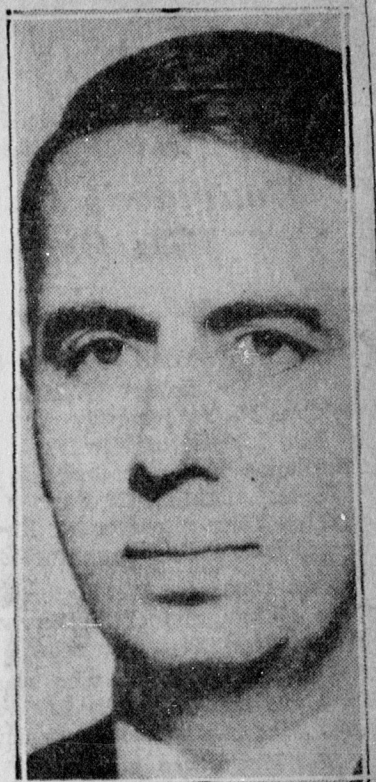
The fight over Commissioner Smith, first appointed in 1916, has been a bitter one. At the first intimation of his replacement, Massachusetts school superintendents formally opposed it and began a state-wide fight for his retention. Supt. Patrick A. Campbell of the Boston School Department, reportedly selected for the job, said he didn't want it and was said to have favored Smith, thereby stirring up something.

### Belisle Declined?

Reports were current today that the Governor had offered the position to Hector Belisle, formerly of Worcester and now superintendent of the Fall River schools, and that Mr. Belisle had declined it. Mentioned several days as a possible appointee, Reardon came into prominence only last night when officials of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation announced they had indorsed him. The announcement met today with a blast against Reardon by Robert T. Watt, secretary of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor and Curley appointee to the Unemployment Insurance Commission. Watt criticized Reardon for a quoted statement that he supports the teachers' oath law, which Watt said was communistic and that children would be regimented under it.

A contract to the Merritt, Chapman & Scott Corp. to reconstruct platforms at Commonwealth pier

## Education Head



Associated Press Photo

James G. Reardon, 35-year-old superintendent of schools in Adams, appointed and confirmed as Massachusetts Commissioner of Education yesterday.

at a cost of \$717,940 was approved by the council.

Three deputy income tax assessors for the Department of Taxation and Corporations were approved. They are Frederick T. Openshaw of Fall River, John F. Kelley of Medford and Festus M. Flaherty of Boston.

### Smith Silent

Mr. Smith, replaced as commissioner of education, said tonight that he had no comment to make "at present."

Rep. Philip G. Bowker of Brookline, Republican, issued the following statement tonight on Smith matter:

"The despicable methods of Governor Curley are now only too apparent. His back-door tactics in the case of Dr. Payson Smith should not be overlooked. First through his henchmen he maneuvered a vote through the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers to support James G. Reardon of Adams for the position of commissioner of education. This morning he held a caucus of the Democratic members of the council behind closed doors. The council then met and the Governor submitted Dr. Smith's name for reappointment. A vote of 5 to 4 rejected Dr. Smith. The Governor, according to the pre-arranged plan, then put in Mr. Reardon's name, which the council confirmed by a vote of 6 to 3.

How is it that the Democratic members of the council apparently dared to oppose the Governor in the voting on Dr. Smith? What a bluff on the part of the Governor!

*Continued*



Does he think for one minute the public cannot see through this? By trying to save his own face and put his councilors on the spot, the Governor has stooped to tactics of the lowest sort and has only shown himself up."

## Reardon Believes In Practical Arts

### Special to the Telegram

ADAMS, Dec. 18.—James G. Reardon, 35, superintendent of schools in Adams since last June, who was made state commissioner of education today, is a native of Medway, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Reardon of Medway. He was superintendent of schools in East

Bridgewater for nine years before accepting the Adams position.

He was graduated in 1923 from Boston College where he was a member of the varsity football team and an honor student. He holds degrees of A.B. and A.M. and has done graduate work at Boston College, Harvard and Brown. During the World War he was a member of the R. O. T. C. and is now an active member of the American Legion at present in Adams Post. He is also a member of Adams Lodge of Elks.

After graduating from Boston College he tutored in Greek and then became assistant principal at East Bridgewater High School, then principal and finally superintendent.

### Member of K. of C.

During his teaching career at East Bridgewater he married Miss Anita Thorndike, daughter of the late Judge and Mrs. Hubert Thorndike of East Bridgewater. They have four children, Cynthia, 7, James G., Jr., 5, Susan Thorndike, 3, and Rosemary, 1. The Reardons live at B street.

Mr. Reardon is a member of St. Thomas' Church and Adams Council, Knights of Columbus. He also holds membership in the Phi Gamma Mu, national honor society, the New England and Massachusetts Superintendents' Associations, University Club at Boston, and South Shore Schoolman's Club.

Mr. Reardon is a firm believer in and staunch supporter of the Teachers' Oath bill and the teachers in Adams schools were among the first in the state to subscribe to the oath, the ceremony occurring at a mass assembly over which Mr. Reardon presided.

Mr. Reardon issued the following statement when informed of his appointment: "I am very much pleased. I wish to thank Governor Curley and the Executive Council for the honor conferred on me and I wish to assure them and the general public that I shall at all times endeavor to fulfill the duties of state commissioner of education in a manner worthy of the best traditions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts."

Mr. Reardon has very pronounced ideas on the educational system in this state. He is a believer in the cultivation of practical arts. Since his short term in Adams, he has restored domestic science and manual training to their places in the school curriculum on a full basis after they had been placed on a curtailed basis three years ago. He has reopened the cafeteria in Junior High and

the Board of Parole has authorized parole of 15 prisoners at Conford Re-

*Concluded*

put it on a paying basis. Mr. Reardon is an able public speaker and has been in constant demand at public occasions in this vicinity.

Mr. Reardon has advocated a closer relationship between the teachers and parents and has been instrumental in forming parent-teacher associations in Adams.

a strong conviction that he is not a confirmed psycho-maniac

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# Curley Jobs Here 'Fiasco'

**Placement Office Hasn't  
Placed a Man, But Is  
Still Hopeful**

**NEARLY 4000 APPLIED**

**Garvey and Mannix Still  
Hold Posts Waiting  
Jobs 'In Making'**

**By CARL W. ERICKSON  
Telegram Staff Reporter**

The word "fiasco" has apparently been scribbled across another "work and wages" plan.

This time it is the distribution of jobs on Governor Curley's thirteen million dollar work program through the placement office set up in Worcester almost three months ago.

Since its opening one week before the city primaries, Oct. 8, between thirty-five hundred and four thousand men have applied at the office for jobs, but not one has been put to work.

### Garvey 'Hopeful'

Daniel J. Garvey, head of the bureau, located at 69 Mechanic street, was still hopeful yesterday that there would be jobs to give out, but admitted he did not know where or how many.

"We have been given to understand," he said, "that there are some sidewalk jobs in the making and are expecting instructions most any day to assign men to this work. Other than that, we are still accepting applications."

Much political significance was attached to the opening of the office, timed to come one week before the primaries in which Mayor Mahoney and Rev. Edward J. Kelley were sparring for the Democratic mayoralty nomination.

Mr. Garvey was named top ranking man at the intercession of Representative Kelley after Cornelius J. (Neil) Mannix had been appointed to the post by Public Works Commissioner William F. Callahan. Frank L. Kane, now deposed manager of Governor Curley's employment office, said the two were to be directors, but Mr. Garvey was to be the final authority.

### "Still Looking"

The rush to register started with the opening of the office, but until after the primaries, the applicants were told no blanks had arrived. Meanwhile, from other sources came word that applications could be made at any of the

Kelley for Mayor headquarters, and reports were current at the time—and also were denied—the men so registering would go to work the day after the primaries. The job seekers are still looking for the jobs.

Records of those who have applied at the Mechanic street bureau are kept in Boston, the applications being forwarded daily to the Governor's employment bureau. Meanwhile, both Mr. Garvey and Mr. Mannix are holding posts as directors, waiting the day when they will be able to give out some of the jobs supposedly in the making.



AMERICAN

Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# REARDON SCORES SCHOOL REDS

Governor Greets Education Head and Wife



After swearing in James G. Reardon of Adams as new state commissioner of education, Governor Curley congratulates the appointee and Mrs. Reardon, who was present at the oath-administering ceremony.

(Picture from

***Educator  
To Insist  
On 'Oath'***

**CURLEY HITS  
AT CRITICS**

"Communism has no place in the public schools of this country and I will do everything within my power to eradicate it in Massachusetts whenever it rears its head."

So declared James G. Reardon of Adams today after he had been sworn in by Governor Curley as State Commissioner of Education.

The new school head declared: "If any radicalism is taught in the schools of Massachusetts and is brought to my attention I will do everything in my power to eliminate it."

He added:

"I am not going to campaign against radicalism in the schools of Massachusetts, but if it exists, it will be eliminated."



the Board of Parole has authorized parole of 15 prisoners at Concord Re-

a strong conviction that he is not a confirmed psycho-maniac

With reference to the teachers' oath, he said:

"I am in favor of any laws on the statute books and believe if they are there they should be enforced."

### "Duty of Educator"

"The general court has decided that at present the teachers' oath is necessary. As long as the law made by the general court exists, there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law-abiding citizen."

"Those citizens who feel that the law is not necessary can have recourse to the constitutional method of changing the law."

"My interests from now on," he added, "will be to uphold the high standards which have made Massachusetts conspicuous in the field of education."

In thanking all who have cooperated with him Payson Smith, the outgoing commissioner, said:

"I've taken great pride and satisfaction in the office of commissioner of education and I have made every effort to discharge my duties in a manner consistent with the high traditions of the office."

Following the simple ceremony of swearing in the new commissioner Governor Curley said:

"I have appreciation that the education and training of your predecessor, who came here from a neighboring state to accept the position, was no greater than yours."

"Let me say that no man is absolutely indispensable. Those people who consider the retirement of an important official a calamity are making the greatest mistake."

"Let me say that if we should drop dead tomorrow there would be a group of men and women ready to take our places and qualified to discharge our duties."

"I am quite sure this applies to the board of education."

### Word Passed

"You have a great responsibility, but I am sure you will measure up to it."

That resignations from the advisory board to the State Department of Education may result from the ousting of Commissioner Payson Smith, was banned earlier.

A call for a secret meeting of the board at Hotel Somerset tonight was issued today.

The advisory board is unpaid. It consists of Miss Mary E. Murray of Cambridge, Mrs. John Power of Worcester, Walter V. McDuffie of Springfield, Henry B. Sawyer, a Boston business man, and A. Lincoln Filene, Boston merchant.

Miss Murray is the most recent member of the board. Governor Curley named her to this position several weeks ago upon the expiration of the term of Grace S. Mansfield, sister of the mayor.

The meeting of the board is entirely unofficial, it is pointed out, and word was passed yesterday by the secretary of one of the older board members.

Probably the youngest man ever to hold the job in the history of the state, Reardon, 35, superintendent of schools in Adams since last September, was confirmed by

the governor's council after rejecting the reappointment of Dr. Smith.

After the swearing-in ceremonies, Reardon will be tendered an informal reception in the Hotel Bellevue.

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### Barry Requests

### Removal of El

Request that Governor Curley include the question of removal of the Elevated structure in Charlestown in his annual message to the Legislature was contained in a letter sent by Representative Thomas E. Barry of East Boston.

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TEST. SCOTT TULLIS



**SAFETY COMMISSIONER TAKES OATH**—Paul G. Kirk, re-appointed head of the state department of public safety, is sworn in by Governor Curley in a simple ceremony at the State House. Commissioner Kirk is ex-officio head of the Massachusetts state police.



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# CURLEY FEARS WPA RIOTS

## ASKS FARLEY AID TO GET MEN PAID

Warning of the "possibility of riots and bloodshed" unless WPA workers here are paid before Christmas, Governor Curley today sent an urgent appeal to National WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins.

Governor Curley laid the blame for the critical situation here directly to "the official in charge" whose administration he termed "an abject failure."

State WPA administrator of Massachusetts is Arthur G. Rotch, who has drawn the fire of Governor Curley on sidewalk projects and other programs.

### CURLEY PHONES FARLEY

Governor Curley's appeal to Hopkins followed a long-distance telephone conversation with Postmas-

ter-General James A. Farley, who promised to bring the matter to the attention of President Roosevelt.

The letter to Hopkins read:

"There is a possibility of riots and bloodshed unless persons employed under the WPA here receive their wages prior to Christmas.

"I beg to direct your attention more particularly to the case of women and men, citizens of Lowell to the number of 3000, who have received no pay since November 21 and who are naturally resentful and whose resentment may find expression in some stronger form than verbal protest.

"What is true in the case of Lowell is true in the case of Wakefield where the employees have not been paid for five weeks, and in many other cities and towns the same condition prevails.

### "ABJECT FAILURE"

"The fault does not lie altogether in the system, but, rather, it does lie directly with the official in charge whose administration of the office may be summed up in a single phrase—abject failure.

Other details on page 15.

"The attempt to excuse the failure to so conduct the activities of the department as to meet obligations of this character upon the ground of the enormity of the task is stupid for the reason that a sufficient number of competent clerical help is always available."

Informed of the governor's action, Administrator Arthur G. Rotch denied that his administration had been a failure and declared it has been a success except for some delays in payrolls which we freely admit."

### ROTCH MAKES REPLY

Rotch said:

"I was charged with the responsibility of putting 113,700 men to work by December 1. I have exceeded this quota by putting 120,000 men to work.

"All workers will be paid by next Tuesday for work completed up to Friday noon.

"There is a delay in payment of five days always due to the Federal system of paying."

Previously, Administrator Rotch had declared all State WPA workers would receive checks by tomorrow evening.

### SOMERVILLE DOLES FOOD

Similar conditions prevailed today in other communities.

In Somerville, food slips were issued to 150 workers, unpaid for four weeks, after they had staged a protest march on City Hall.

Starvation conditions for hundreds of WPA workers in Everett were prevented today by special emergency measures adopted by the board of aldermen to allow transfer of funds to the welfare department.

Meanwhile, at Boston headquarters it was announced that the 57 workers laid off in Everett would be absorbed into other projects. Everett officials, however, reported

*Continued*



With reference to

*concluded*

they had received no definite instructions.

In Lowell, city welfare officials announced that \$10,000 had been spent to tide over the 3000 unpaid WPA workers and that only an emergency appropriation of \$10,500 passed last night prevented the closing of the welfare department for lack of funds.

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**THE SENATOR SAYS:--**

# Longhaired Boys Not So Pleased With Reardon

*He's Strong for Teachers'  
Oath; Bates Economy  
Makes Hit in Salem*

## THE SENATOR:

*He sees all and knows all that's going on in Massachusetts politics and most of it he finds amusing or amazing, often both. Best of all, he tells about it.*

*Meet him below and listen in with him regularly in the Boston Evening American and Boston Sunday Advertiser.*

The Senator comes in looking like the last frayed aster of a bleak autumn.

"I feel like a musty, Timmy," says The Senator, "and do not tell me that is the way I look. And do not ask me whether Governor Jim would have sent Payson Smith's name into the Council 'if.' All I know is that Payson can now devote all his time listening to the long-haired boys who are opposing the teachers' oath bill."

The Senator dips his snogger into the musty glass, takes a deep breath and nearly falls apart.

Just at this moment a very phoney Santa Claus comes through the door. His outfit is only a red hat and a set of beer-stained whiskers that are hung on his ears with a string, and he looks about as much like Santa Claus as Joe Langone. He is one of those street corner Santa Claus pedlars with a line of trick toys, and what he has is a lot of little tin mice

that you wind up and they go.

The phoney Santa Claus puts one of the little trick mice on the bar and it goes round and round, squeaking a little squeak.



THE SENATOR



"Take it away," says Timmy, "it will eat up all the cheese from the free lunch."

## One Beer for the Rodent

"Timmy," says The Senator. "That gives me an idea. I will swap the beer for the mechanical rodent."

"Done," says the phoney Santa Claus, like that.

So The Senator gets the mouse and the Santa Claus gets the beer and when the Santa Claus has gone, The Senator says:

"Timmy, this a great idea for a practical joke. We will wind up the trick mouse and hide him in the bowl of cole slaw and when some unsuspecting customer loosens him up, he will pop out. What do you say?"

Timmy says it is okay because he has been trying to get rid of the cole slaw since April, so The Senator winds up the little trick mouse and backs him into the cole slaw and the stage is set for the big practical joke.

"Going on from there," says The Senator, "I am glad to see that the new commissioner of education, James G. Reardon, is all for the teachers' oath. And if you ask me, I will wager that Bobby Watt worked himself up for a dressing down when he let loose his blast against Reardon and the oath. This would have been all right a while back when Bobby was acting only in the capacity of a legislative agent, but now he is a state official by virtue of Governor Jim appointing him to the unemployment compensation commission and a great many people figure he made a grave error by not keeping his nose in that affair. It is all very well for Bobby to go around putting the blast on Gaspar Bacon, but nobody would say that Gaspar and Governor Jim are like that . . . Another musty, Timmy."

The Senator puts his snogger into his own immediate affair for a moment, then continues:

## Bates Is Candidate

"Latest candidate for the Republican state ticket is Salem's perennial mayor, George Bates, who is making a big hit with the taxpayers by rapping municipal extravagance and keeping his own expenditures down to the bone.

"I am glad to see Governor Jim has spiked the rumor that he considered removing Supreme Court justices because this was a nasty rumor started by a few who would like to put Governor Jim on a spot.

"And speaking of judges, I hear if there is a vacancy at any time in the Middlesex district, the man you will see appointed is Henry C. Rowland of Arlington, now counsel for the state bank examiner."

The Senator palms a cracker and spears a square of kippered fish.

"This reminds me," says The Senator, "that in the rush yesterday, the failure to reappoint Ray Kenney as fish and game commissioner was generally overlooked. There are more candidates for that job than there are walking bed-sheets in Ethiopia."

Well, sir, it is just at this point that The Senator, thinking to top off his sandwich, dips into the bowl of cole slaw. And out jumps the little trick mouse, another mouse which is alive, and the ship's cat. They all land in The Senator's musty.

"Senator," says Timmy, "this is more than I can stand and I am closing the joint for the night."

*Concluded*

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## PANETTA GETS Curley Pardon

Granted a Christmas pardon by Governor James M. Curley, Thomas J. Panetta of Concord avenue, Cambridge, will be released from State Prison for the holiday.

Panetta was convicted of murdering Dominic Simonetti, also of Cambridge. The row which resulted in the murder centered around the attentions of a 15-year-old girl.



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# GIRL ABOUT TOWN

By Ann Marsters

With Christmas on the brain, I have been learning things that I didn't know before. About Christmas, I mean. And I have actually looked things up in books, just so you, dear readers, may know more about the origin of your lovely Christmas customs.

The Christmas tree, for instance, was one of the things that the early Christian missionaries displayed at Christmas time to attract and convert the barbarians. (I'll bet they weren't as well-lighted as OUR trees.)

The decking of homes and churches with holly and mistletoe (which we don't do so much any more, do we?) is a custom

as old as the Druidic worship. Mistletoe was regarded as sacred by the Druids, the priests of ancient Britain and Gaul. But the origin of the quaint custom of kissing under the mistletoe is quite, quite lost. (At least, I couldn't find it.)

## Yule Log Is Survival Of Sun Worship

The yule-log survives from our sun-worshipping ancestors, and the burning of it was meant to typify the return of the warmth of spring and summer.

The Christmas carols, which grew out of the Nativity hymns of the early Christians, were at one time prohibited by the clergy, and in 1642



ANN MARSTERS

the Puritans abolished them completely.

As for Santa Claus, St. Nicholas, Kris Kringle, or what you will—he was a saint of the primitive church and the especial friend of the children.

Tradition has it that in his lifetime, he was in the habit of throwing presents in at the windows of children while they slept on Christmas Eve. And poor young maidens received purses of money from him which they treasured as a portion of their dowries.

## Sunday School Teacher Makes a Faux Pas

If this isn't true, we refuse to be responsible, for it was sent in by Mrs. J. W. of Winchester.

A Sunday school teacher of her acquaintance was about to get off a street car just as a gentleman whom he thought she recognized as the parent of one of her pupils got on.

"Good morning," she said, with a cheery smile.

Instantly she realized, by the quizzical expression on the man's face, that she had made a mistake, so she attempted to correct it.

"Oh, pardon me," she said, "I thought you were the father of one of my children."

This was an entirely new kind of Santa Claus and I, for one, have never seen another quite like him. He was, in brief, intoxicated. In fact, he was very much so (but don't tell the children), and he was having a fine time, last Saturday afternoon, dancing and singing through the streets of Roxbury surrounded by a crowd of admiring children, who thought him quite wonderful with his white whiskers and his very jolly red nose.

## Roxbury Policeman Jeered For Arresting Santa Claus

Now we have the "policeman's dilemma"—for a policeman saw, and knew not what to do. How could he disillusion so many children by calling the police wagon—but then, again, how could he allow this sort of thing to go on? Finally, his sense of duty got the upper hand, and he DID call the wagon and hustled Santa Claus into it.

He may be sorry for that, now, for children have made his life pretty miserable. Every day, as he walks his beat, they hoot and jeer and throw stones at him. They'll get even with him yet for arresting Santa Claus.

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**HEARD ABOUT TOWN**—Stanton White, former city censor and kin by marriage to Governor Curley, now has a position with the New Haven Railroad . . . Rumor has it that President Roosevelt sent a round-trip ticket to Washington to his son, Franklin, at Harvard—just to make sure that Franklin wouldn't DRIVE home for the holidays . . . The fresh air fiends in New York have insisted that the tops of the busses remain uncovered all through the winter . . . "Boston night" in Philadelphia, in honor of Al Frazer of the Boston American, and Jimmy Foss. They were at the Hotel Walton last Saturday night following their broadcast, and Mickey Alpert announced: "Ladies and gentlemen, this is the Mayfair in Boston—and may this night be christened 'Boston night.'" . . .



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# CURLEY SCORES SCHOOL BOARD

## *Members To Meet in Secret*

### REARDON GIVEN OATH OF OFFICE

A pointed rebuke to those who considered the retirement of an important official a calamity was given today by Governor Curley after he had sworn in James G. Reardon to succeed Dr. Payson Smith as Commissioner of Education.

Addressing the new commissioner following the simple ceremony, the Governor said:

"I have appreciation that the education and training of your predecessor, who came here from a neighboring state to accept the position, was no greater than yours.

"Let me say that no man is absolutely indispensable. Those people who consider the retirement of an important official a calamity are making the greatest mistake.

"Let me say that if you should drop dead tomorrow there would be a group of men and women ready to take our places and qualified to discharge our duties.

"I am quite sure this applies to the board of education.

## New Education Chief, Wife



(Picture from International News Photograph Service)

With his wife at the Bellevue Hotel, just before going to the State House to be sworn in as new commissioner of education, is James G. Reardon of Adams. He replaces former Commissioner Payson Smith.

### Word Passed

"You have a great responsibility, but I am sure you will measure up to it."

That resignations from the advisory board to the State Department of Education may result

from the ousting of Commissioner Payson Smith, was banned earlier.

A call for a secret meeting of the board at Hotel Somerset tonight was issued today.

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*Continued*



Worcester, Walter V. McDuffie of Springfield, Henry B. Sawyer, a Boston business man, and A. Lincoln Filene, Boston merchant.

Miss Murray is the most recent member of the board. Governor Curley named her to this position several weeks ago upon the expiration of the term of Grace S. Mansfield, sister of the mayor.

The meeting of the board is entirely unofficial, it is pointed out, and word was passed yesterday by the secretary of one of the older board members.

Probably the youngest man ever to hold the job in the history of the state, Reardon, 35, superintendent of schools in Adams since last September, was confirmed by

the governor's council after rejecting the reappointment of Dr. Smith.

After the swearing-in ceremonies, Reardon will be tendered an informal reception in the Hotel Bellevue.

Reappointments of Commissioner of Public Safety Paul G. Kirk and Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation Henry F. Long, whose terms expired December 1, were also confirmed by the council.

On a recommendation by the governor, the council also approved payment on a basis of 10 per cent commission to Francis R. Mullin, of Winchester, if he is successful in collecting \$233,885 said to be due the state from the Federal government for a Civil War expenditures.

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## "War Brewing"

# Russell in Blast At Archbishop

## FALL RIVER COUNCILOR CHARGES PROPAGANDA

Joining in the protest that has been aroused since the British prelate's arrival here, Governor's Councilor Philip J. Russell, of Fall River, today linked the mission of the Archbishop of York to British propaganda aimed to ally America with Great Britain in the war now brewing in Europe.

Hinting that the British prelate is playing his role in this propaganda, Russell, in a statement to the Boston Evening American, declared that England has guardedly made it known that she wants the United States in the next war.

"And Great Britain's corps of diplomats and propaganda experts are trained to see that Great Britain gets that which she desires," Russell declared.

Rather than continue to express his ideas that America should join the League of Nations in sanctions against Italy, Russell suggested that the archbishop visit some of the historic Revolutionary spots around Greater Boston and realize that if propaganda is his mission he might feel the true American spirit at these spots and realize that his mission is in vain.

## Sees Conflict

Inconsistency in the primate's stand was pointed out by Russell, who asserted that his views conflict more or less with the practices of the Christian church which preaches a doctrine of peace rather than conquest.

"We in America have had a great deal of opportunity to view the disastrous effects which result through heeding such propaganda," Russell's statement continues.

"Unfortunately for that body of hypocritical holier-than-thous, the League of Nations, and its sympathizers, there is still smarting in the minds of every red-blooded American who has reached the age of reason the memory of the treacherous betrayal of this country more than eighteen years ago.

"We were betrayed by a man who might have been great had he not by his docility and subservience to the European powers placed our country into a war which was none of our business . . . which was provoked as the present one is being provoked, for the sale of bonds and the profits of munitions makers.

"That man was Woodrow Wilson."

## Wars of Conquest

Discussing the Archbishop's statements that England has never been the aggressor nation, Russell pointed to her wars of conquest in India, Africa, Egypt and Ireland, where rest the "graves of men who have died defending their nations."

"Indeed we need not delve into European history—nor need we tour Europe or Asia or Africa for proof of England's role of aggressor during the past century and a half.

"But British propaganda, it seems, is rife in the United States. And the source of the latest story of disrespect and even insult to the American flag is probably the same that conceived the dastardly 'Lusitania Coup.'"

*Continued*



"It reeks of the same greed-diseased brain. And doubtless this story is only one of the many, and mild among them, that we will hear and read in the months to come.

"For Great Britain wants the United States in the war which is brewing in Europe. And Great Britain's corps of diplomats and propaganda experts are trained to see that Great Britain gets that which she desires.

"Then thank God for the faith that American people still have in the wisdom and sincerity of a Washington and Jefferson whose policy and advice we might well have followed to advantage in 1917 and which we are determined to follow in 1935-36 and the years to come.

"The Sir Samuel Hoares, the Anthony Edens and the Archbishop of York are working for and therefore in the interest of Great Britain, but Washington and Jefferson were interested only in America, the United States and its interests and happily the people still realize this.

"As witness of that, I might refer to our glorious victory last January in defeating the ratification of our entrance into the World Court and the League of Nations.

"Let us, therefore, not mince words any longer with the propagandists and the plotters, whether they be British agents, archbishops or recruiting officers, or whether they be those holding high positions of state in our government.

### Pride in Curley

"Let us remind them that while we Americans cannot deny our Woodrow Wilsons, our Norman Davises and our Secretary Hulls, still we point with pride to our Borahs, our Nyes, and our Curleys, and that while Cambridge, across the bridge from Boston, houses Harvard University, still they must remember that Boston harbor was the scene of the Boston Tea Party.

"In other words, perhaps there is a side to Americans which they have forgotten exists. Let us hope for their own sake that they do not tax our patience to too great a length."

The Archbishop, the Most Rev. and Right Honorable William Temple, arrived here Tuesday for a series of lectures.

Today he will be guest of honor at a luncheon given by President James B. Conant of Harvard. He and his wife leave December 23 for Providence.

### Hibernians Denounce Archbishop's League Plea

San Francisco, Dec. 19 (US)—A stinging rebuke was administered here by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, comprising thousands of Californians of Irish extraction, to the Rev. William Temple, Archbishop of York.

Archbishop York is in this country endeavoring to swing American public opinion behind England's Ethiopian policy by resurrecting the oft-repudiated proposal for United States membership in the League of Nations.

In indignant terms, the Hibernians denounced his activities as "gratuitous and unasked interference" in American foreign policy

and a "breach of hospitality by an alien visitor."

Other organizations are preparing to adopt similar resolutions. The United Irish Societies of San Francisco, comprising 66 Irish clubs, will meet Sunday to consider the situation. Indignant Italian groups are also drafting resolutions.

### Jurist Warns Britain Is Up to Old Trick in U. S.

New York, Dec. 19—A bitter denunciation of British diplomacy which has sought to "sway the actions of America through her old tricks of propaganda" was made by former Supreme Court Justice Daniel F. Cohalan in an address before business and professional men in the Hotel Astor.

Of the lecture tours of the Rev. William Temple, archbishop of York, and Sir Norman Angell, in which they have defended the League of Nations, Judge Cohalan said:

"We have been urged by distinguished visitors, clerical and otherwise, not to stand idly by. We have been deluged with editorial and inspired news items."

He chided "pacifists and Anglo-maniacs" who resent the fact that America did not take the advantage of an opportunity "of coming to the assistance of England when she spoke the word."

In the matter of the sanctions against Italy, which he says were inspired by England, Judge Cohalan said:

"The genial old gentleman at the head of the State Department, a convinced pacifist and friend of the rest of the world, even at the expense, it would seem, of the welfare of his own country, led the way in the procession which England was so anxious to have started. He called upon the business men of the United States to stop doing business with Italy—and with Ethiopia."

*Continued*

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## JUST A RUMOR / ON AGED JUDGES

Gov Curley admitted today that rumors he was intent to retire Supreme Court judges who had passed the age of 70 had been called to his attention, but he said reports originated elsewhere than him.

"I have been asked several times," he said, "whether there is any truth in the rumor that I was to remove certain Supreme Court judges for physical or mental disabilities due to their advanced age, but I told the person that asked me the question that I hadn't even heard the rumor."

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## CURLEY TO FREE 1240 OFFENDERS

### Christmas Pardons List for Five at State Prison

15 at Concord, 20 Women at  
Sherborn, 200 Farm Inmates

Although only five serious offenders will be granted Christmas pardons, Gov Curley said yesterday that 200 habitual drunkards and other Bridgewater State Farm inmates, 20 women prisoners at Sherborn Reformatory and 15 first offenders at Concord Reformatory will be recipients of holiday clemency this year.

An additional 14 Concord "first timers" will be released during January, according to the Governor. The prisoners, as well as the Bridgewater inmates and the Sherborn women, are to be given their liberty on recommendation of Arthur T. Lyman, State Commissioner of Correction, Gov Curley said.

Only one State Prison inmate, Samuel Powers of Westfield, will be released at once. He is a lifer, sentenced Feb 20, 1914, in Hampden Superior Court for murdering his wife. Gov Curley asks that his sentence be commuted to 20 years, making him eligible for immediate liberation.

The only other lifer to be freed will be Wojciech Birusz of Salem, who was sentenced April 20, 1920, in Essex Superior Court for the murder of Mary B. Lavoie. He will be given a commutation of sentence, with the understanding that he will be deported to Poland as soon as he is paroled.

The only other felons included in the Christmas clemency list are:

William Hooper of Lynn, sentenced in Essex Superior Court, March 24, 1933, to serve six to seven years for manslaughter. His sentence will be commuted to three to seven years.

Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in Worcester Superior Court, Feb 27, 1932, to 10 to 12 years for burning a building. His sentence will be cut to four to 12 years.

Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge, sentenced in Middlesex Superior Court, June 19, 1929, to 12 to 20 years for manslaughter in connection with the shooting of Dominic Somerelli. His sentence will be commuted to seven to 20 years.

It was stated, however, that in all the 15 cases at Concord clemency was extended on recommendation of Supt Michael Dee and that men would have been eligible for parole in January or February.

A hearing will be held on these petitions by the pardons committee of the Executive Council next Monday morning.



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# Reardon Takes Oath As Education Head



GOV CURLEY SHAKING HANDS WITH JAMES G. REARDON AFTER SWEARING HIM  
IN AS COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION. IN THE CENTER IS MRS REARDON

## CURLEY LAUDS NEW OFFICIAL

### Governor Raps Those Who Oppose Change

James G. Reardon, 36-year-old school superintendent of Adams, was sworn in by Gov James M. Curley today as Commissioner of Education to succeed Dr Payson Smith, who had held the post 20 years.

After administering the oath of office to the young Boston College graduate, Gov Curley said, "I know that the education and training of your predecessor in office, who came here to accept the post from another New England State, was no better than yours.

"If we were to drop dead tomorrow, other men better qualified than ourselves would step forward to fill our positions. We are making the greatest mistake we ever could make when we regard ourselves or anyone else as indispensable. No one is indispensable. Every time we think that the retirement of a certain individual is a calamity, we find that a better man comes along to take the job."

### Statement by Reardon

Approximately 100 friends and supporters of the new commissioner of education crowded into the Governor's office. His predecessor, Payson Smith, was not present. After the oath had been administered, Commissioner Reardon and his wife posed with the Governor for pictures.

A few moments later, Commissioner Reardon issued a statement in which he said that his "interests from now on will be to uphold the high standards which have made Massachusetts conspicuous in the field of education."

The rest of his statement follows: "I shall be ready to do everything in my power to further adult education, to maintain and, if possible, im-

*Continued*



prove the standing of state schools, and to do everything possible to secure employment for the young men and women citizens of Massachusetts who are qualified for teaching positions.

"As to any specific program, I prefer to make no announcement until I have had opportunity to become more familiar with the problems now under consideration in the State Department of Education.

#### Reference to Oath Law

"Regarding the oath—at the present the law of the state is that the teachers should take this oath. The General Court of Massachusetts has decided that at present such an oath is necessary. As long as the law made by the General Court exists, there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law-abiding citizen. Those citizens who feel that the oath is not necessary, can have recourse to the constitutional method of changing the law.

"Concerning the necessity of this law at present, that depends on the facts which seemed to justify the General Court in passing this law, and the ability as well as the willingness of educational authorities to handle the situation without the aid of special legislation.

"Concerning the observance of the law itself, I can see no objection to any educator taking an oath which obligates him only to the performance of what is a clear duty—an oath similar in most respects to that taken by lawyers and by many public officials in the state."

Among those who gathered around the new commissioner after he had taken his oath of office to congratulate him was Representative Thomas A. Dorgan, the author of the much-disputed teachers' oath law.

#### Dr Smith's Statement

On retiring from the office of State Commissioner of Education today, Dr Payson Smith gave out the following statement:

"I want to express my deep appreciation to the thousands of school officials, teachers and citizens who gave to me and to the Department of Education their support through the years in which I have been in their service and in that of the children of the Commonwealth, and for the continued confidence that has been shown me in recent months.

"I want also to speak of the invaluable service that the press of the state has rendered in acquainting the public with the work and activities of the department and in its sincere and wholesome criticism of its policies.

"I have taken great pride and satisfaction in the office of Commissioner of Education, and I have made every effort to discharge its duties in a manner consistent with its high traditions. In that effort I have had at all times the invaluable support of the members of the State Board of Education, of my associates on my staff, and in the institutions associated with the Department of Education."

Several large bouquets were presented State Tax Commissioner Henry F. Long today to express the satisfaction of the donors on his reappointment and confirmation as commissioner yesterday. The flowers

came from employees of the department and individuals.

### WOMEN PROTEST SPEED IN CONFIRMING REARDON

Failing this morning to locate Lieut Gov Joseph Hurley, Mrs Helen G. Rotch of Boston, legislative chairman, and Mrs Edward K. Nash of Weston, chairman of the Civil Service committee of the League of Women Voters, will this afternoon attempt to arrange an appointment for the purpose of learning why "it was necessary to confirm James G. Reardon as Commissioner of Education under suspension of the rules?"

In connection with the visit of this committee to the State House, Mrs Richard H. Fields of Weston, president of the league, issued the following statement: "The Massachusetts League of Women Voters feels strongly that in so important a state matter as the appointment of a new Commissioner of Education the public should most certainly have been given the opportunity to discuss the qualifications of the appointee and to express its opinions.

"This opportunity is traditionally afforded the public by the customary period, usually a week, and sometimes more, between the Governor's appointment and consideration by the Council. By means of the suspension of the rules and acting immediately on Mr Reardon's appointment, the Council permitted the public no chance whatever for discussing this appointment. The League is eager to learn from Lieut Gov Hurley the reason for this suspension.

"Further than this, the League wishes to draw attention to the fact that Dr Payson Smith, whose reappointment as Educational Commissioner the Council refused to confirm, has served Massachusetts with extraordinary ability, intelligence and devotion and has become not only a major figure in this state but throughout America as well.

"His reign as commissioner has made Massachusetts one of the most envied states educationally in the union. It is with great regret that the League sees Dr Smith after 20 years rejected."

*Concluded*

Globe  
Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

### "SCRAP HEAP" FOR TOILER HIT IN GOV CURLEY'S TALK

In the second of a series of radio talks on President Roosevelt's Social Security Program, Gov James M. Curley last night declared that the program is necessary because of the exacting demands of modern industry on the physical powers of labor.

"We have too long in America," he said, "been tossing men who have given a lifetime in industrial pursuits upon the social scrap heap, holding forth to them as a reward for a lifetime of honest toil the prospects of ending their days in the poor house."

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Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## W. P. A. HELP MISSING AT CAPE COD SITE

### Surveyors Alone Are Found Working at Falmouth

Special Dispatch to the Globe

FALMOUTH, Dec 18—Although a party of surveyors worked on mapping out the new Massachusetts National Guard camp today, no actual work got underway in clearing off the pine and oak clad site nor in brushing out roads to the 12,000 acre tract of land recently purchased by the Commonwealth in Bourne, Falmouth, Sandwich.

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Only parties of surveyors and helpers about 30 in number, could be found this afternoon on the area near Ashumet Pond where the camp is to be located. Two National Guard planes flew over the site.

It is believed here some hitch occurred in getting authorization to spend Federal funds. Some contend that the work may be held up because there is no sufficient labor supply available.

Under rules governing W. P. A. allotments such as advanced to begin work on the National Guard camp, only unemployed men on relief rolls in this particular area may be handed jobs. If all such men available already have work, it is possible the project may be delayed until others are completed.

At Bourne town hall it was stated today all registered relief applicants, able bodied men, were already at work. Neither Falmouth, Barnstable nor Mashpee has received requests for W. P. A. workers, officials reported.

Also causing much speculation here is whether the State will provide living quarters for men sent to work on the camp. It is many miles from the nearest village, and if men are sent down from Plymouth, Brockton, New Bedford or Fall River, it will be a journey of more than 50 miles from their homes.



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DEC 19 1935

Date

## Reardon Talking to Parents



NEW STATE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION PHOTOGRAPHED  
AT MEDWAY JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT

## REARDON GIVEN BIG WELCOME

### Medway Homestead Is Filled With Old Friends

Special Dispatch to the Globe

MEDWAY, Dec 18—"Roddy" Reardon came home tonight, 12 years out of Boston College, as the youngest Commissioner of Education the state—and possibly the country—has ever had.

Hurrying over the road from Adams, the 35-year-old successor to Dr Payson Smith, returned to the Colonial homestead on Village st—where his parents have lived all their married life—to find the house filled with admiring, enthusiastic friends.

"Commissioner James Gerrard Reardon is here," they shouted gleefully. "Welcome home, commissioner."

Here, in the quiet town where the Reardons have lived for several generations, he used to arise at 5 in the morning to milk the cows and do the chores before he went to his classes at Boston College.

"'Roddy' wanted an education and he was willing to work hard for it," his friends said.

They came from Belmont and West Roxbury and Arlington and half a dozen other cities and towns to greet the new commissioner tonight. He didn't reach his old home until nearly midnight, but his reception was none the less enthusiastic.

Worn by the flood of phone calls and the constant stream of visitors, the new commissioner's 80-year-old father and 78-year-old mother had retired to await his homecoming. Every morning the father, William H. Reardon, goes at 7 a m to operate his finishing loom at the Fabyan Woolen Mills here. He has done this for 40 years, carrying a lunch with him and working a full eight hours. On the side, to pass away the evenings, the elder Reardon conducts an insurance business.

The mother, Mary Agnes (McGinniss) Reardon, is in remarkably good health. She, too, comes from a family long resident in Medway.

With them lives a brother of Mr Reardon, Dennis, aged 94. A veteran

of the Civil War, he recites the Gettysburg address each year at the G. A. R. exercises on Memorial Day—and entirely from memory, too. One of the commissioner's three brothers, William A. Reardon, a motor vehicles inspector attached to the Framingham branch registry, also lives at the Village-st home.

The other brothers are John, New England manager of the Fabyan Mills, who lives in Medway, and Lawrence J., New England manager of the National Carloading Corporation, who lives in Millis. The new commissioner is the baby of the family.

Commissioner Reardon's wife and four children are now in Adams—where the commissioner became superintendent of schools last September. Just as soon as he can arrange it, Commissioner Reardon and his family will come here to live at the homestead.

"The door will always be open here—and so will the door on Beacon Hill," he said tonight after his arrival. He preferred to make no discussion of his policies until after he has assumed office.

Mr Reardon will be sworn in by Gov Curley at 11:30 o'clock tomorrow at the State House. At 11 a m friends will gather in the Hotel Bellevue for an informal reception.

## Press Clipping Service

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DEC 19 1935

## GOV CURLEY TO SPEAK AT DINNER TO DOWNES

Gov Curley will be the principal speaker at the testimonial dinner to be tendered Harry Downes, Boston College football coach, at the Hotel Lenox tomorrow night.

Behind the testimonial are several coaches and gridiron personalities, including many members of the Gridiron Club of New England. Fred Ostergren, Arlington High coach, is chairman and Edward M. Gallagher Jr, a classmate of Downes at B. C. and secretary to James Roosevelt, will act as toastmaster. The opening kickoff is scheduled for 6:30.

Other speakers include Dr Eddie Anderson of Holy Cross, Coach Pat Hanley of B. U., Coach Al McCoy of Northeastern, Capt-Elect Alex Pszeny of B. C., Rev Louis J. Gallagher, S. J., president of B. C.; Rev Patrick J. Cummings, S. J., faculty director of athletics at the Heights; Graduate Manager John P. Curley, School Committeeman Henry J. Smith, B. C. '22, and the sporting editors of Boston newspapers.

James Golden of Arlington is secretary of the committee and Arthur Barry of Peabody treasurer.



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DEC 19 1935

# Smith Not to See Successor Sworn In

## WILL NOT GO TO STATE HOUSE

Ousted Commissioner May  
Issue Statement Later

Payson Smith, replaced as commissioner of education by James G. Reardon, said over the telephone this morning that he would not be present at the State House when his successor in office, James G. Reardon, is sworn in today. Mr Smith had no comment to make on the action taken yesterday by the Governor and Council, but said he might have a statement later in the day.

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DEC 19 1935

## CURLEY SIGNS FOUR PROJECTS

Construction Items Will  
Cost \$1,769,000

Gov Curley today signed four Emergency Finance Board projects calling for the expenditure of \$1,769,000.

The largest item was \$725,000 for additions and alterations to the Middlesex County Hospital in Lexington and Waltham. The other three items were:

New High School construction in Andover, \$539,000.

Nurses' Home at the Norfolk Hospital, \$100,000.

High School at Swampscott, \$405,000.



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DEC 19 1935

# APPOINTING REARDON TO SMITH'S JOB ATTACKED

## Schuster and Bowker See Move To Save Gov Curley's Face

The maneuver of the Governor's Council yesterday by which James G. Reardon of Adams was made State Commissioner of Education after Dr Payson Smith had failed of confirmation was vigorously assailed last night by Councilor Winfield A. Schuster and Representative Philip G. Bowker as a "pre-arranged plan of the Governor to save his face."

Both Bowker and Schuster called the action of the Governor in first submitting the name of Smith a "mere gesture." Smith, with Lieut Gov Joseph L. Hurley voting in his favor, was rejected, five to four. Reardon's name was then submitted and, with Lieut Gov Hurley voting for him, he was confirmed, six to three.

While the ousting of Smith, who held the important post for 19 years, was attacked, praise greeted the reappointment of Commissioner of Public Safety Paul G. Kirk and Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation Henry F. Long, whose terms expired Dec 1.

### Democrats in Caucus

Persons close to the Governor said he intended to renominate Dr Smith right along and did so notwithstanding information given to him at a caucus of the Democratic Councilors that they would reject the nomination. It is understood the Governor made little effort to have Dr Smith confirmed.

The Democrats were in caucus for an hour and a half before going into regular session to vote down Smith. In the brief interval while they were entering the Council chamber, Gov Curley announced to the press that he would nominate Dr Smith.

"If, however," said the Governor, "the Council should not take favorable action on Dr Smith, I shall submit the name of James G. Reardon."

After voting down the Smith appointment the Council then voted to suspend the rules. With Lieut Gov Hurley out of the room the vote was passed, 5 to 3. Ordinarily a nomination is put over for a week. Suspension of the rules made it possible for the Council to act at once on the Reardon appointment.

"I conferred with the Democratic members of the Council concerning the Smith appointment before the Council session," said Gov Curley, "and, with the exception of the Lieutenant Governor, they were all opposed to him."

### Schuster's Views

Councilor Schuster's statement: "As I see it, the whole thing was cut and dried. The vote of the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers favoring Reardon seems to have been engineered by the Governor. The sending of Smith's name was nothing more than a gesture of the Governor to save his face. Analysis shows that the submission of the name meant nothing."

"The despicable methods of Gov Curley are now only too apparent," said Bowker. "His back-door tactics in the case of Dr Smith should not be overlooked. First, through his henchmen he maneuvered a vote through the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers to support Reardon for the position."

"This morning he held a caucus of the Democratic members of the Council behind closed doors. The Council then met and the Governor submitted Dr Smith's name for reappointment. A vote of 5 to 4 rejected Smith. The Governor, according to a prearranged plan, then put in Reardon's name and he was confirmed, 6 to 3."

"What a bluff on the part of the Governor! Does he think for one minute the public cannot see through this? By trying to save his own face and put his Councilors on the spot the Governor has stooped to tactics of the lowest sort and has only shown himself up."

### Watt Assails Reardon

Robert J. Watt, legislative secretary of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor, also attacked Reardon's appointment.

"If Mr Reardon is quoted correctly in saying that he is 1000 percent behind the teachers' oath law," said Watt, "that statement alone should disqualify him as Commissioner of Education."

"Massachusetts was the birthplace of American liberty and should not be made its graveyard. People who believe in the teachers' oath are believers in the Communistic method of teaching, which is regimenting of school children by regimentation of their teachers."

"If a man who believes in this form of teaching is appointed, the walls of Faneuil Hall will begin to tumble in."

Gov Curley said he had not yet decided what to do in the cases of Arthur T. Lyman, Commissioner of Correction; Raymond J. Kenney, director of fisheries and game, and Maj George J. Cronin, state purchasing agent. The terms of all three have expired.

The Council put over for a third time the confirmation of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville as Commissioner of Agriculture, but confirmed A. J. Lawlor of Lawrence as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy in place of William Hardie of Fall River.

Others confirmed by the Council:

Orville S. Pinkham, Watertown, Pilot Commissioner, District 1; Frank H. Peterson, Medford, Pilot Commissioner, District 1; John Sullivan, Fall River, Deputy Pilot Commissioner, District 4, to succeed D. Gardiner O'Keefe; James S. McQuade, New Bedford, Deputy Pilot Commissioner, District 3, to succeed Manuel P. Marshall; Daniel Lucey, Malden, Public Administrator, to succeed Nicholas A. Loumos; Daniel E. Kiley, Adams, Clerk of 4th District Court of Berkshire, to succeed Edwin K. McPeck; Andrew D. Guthrie, Medford, Associate Medical Examiner, 2d Middlesex District, to succeed Fritz W. Gay; Arthur J. O'Neil, Quincy, stenographer in Executive Department.

### Long Names Deputies

Appointment of three new deputy income tax assessors by Tax Commissioner Long was approved by the Council. They are Festus M. Flaherty of Boston, Frederick T. Openshaw, Fall River, and John F. Kelley, Medford.

A contract to Merritt, Chapman & Scott Corporation of New London for reconstruction of platforms at Commonwealth Pier 5 was approved by the Council at a cost of \$717,940.

With Councilors Brooks and Schuster dissenting, Francis R. Mullin, Boston lawyer, was authorized by the Council to take steps on a 10 percent contingent fee basis to collect \$233,885 owed this state by the Federal Government for money spent at the request of the President during the Civil War in protecting harbors and fortifying the coast. Councilor Brooks maintained the Attorney General should collect the money.

Transfer of \$3,282.08 from the extraordinary fund to cover a shortage in the trustee fund, composed of funds of inmates of State Prison was voted by the Council. The shortage resulted from the closing of the Charlestown Trust Company. The sum voted by the Council would be repaid when the Charlestown bank liquidation was completed, it was agreed. Councilor Brooks in opposing the transfer, declared it a legislative matter to appropriate money to cover the shortage.



DEC 19 1935

## BOSTON ARGUES AGAINST INCREASE IN GAS RATES

### Says Company's Valuation \$20,000,000 Too High—Concern Tells of Falling Profits

Final arguments yesterday on the Boston Consolidated Gas Company's petition to raise its rates found the company pleading that its earnings will be under 3 percent this year, while the city of Boston, in opposition to a rate increase, declared that the company's valuation is \$20,000,000 more than a fair value for rate purposes.

Arguing before the Public Utilities Commission, Counsel Robert H. Holt for the gas company insisted that the concern is entitled to larger returns than it is now getting and must be permitted to earn more to attract new capital.

Lewis Weinstein, assistant corporation counsel of Boston, representing Mayor Mansfield, held that the company's earnings are sufficient, that its capitalization is "ridiculously high" and that the increase in rate to the small customer contains a "concealed service charge" which he held has been outlawed by legislation.

#### Queried by Grant

Richard D. Grant, new utilities commissioner, recently secretary to Gov Curley, questioned Holt on the company's capitalization, particularly as to an item of \$5,758,000 of "going concern value" which Holt explained represented "good will or what it has cost to get customers."

A. C. Webber asked Holt if the company expected to increase its sales by raising its prices.

"Do you think at a higher price people will use more gas?" Webber asked.

"That doesn't necessarily follow," Holt said. "A large number of small customers don't pay their way. They are not going to go off gas because the rate is raised by two cents a day."

"These small users are a great bulk of the numbers?" Webber queried.

"Yes."

"Won't an increase in cost cut their use of gas?"

"That is a natural tendency," Holt said. "But gas is a great convenience. Can it be that because a large number of customers have been served at less than cost that we must keep on?"

"Isn't that due to the trend of the industry?" Webber asked.

"No," said Holt. "The unfortunate fact is that much of the business is done at a loss. The prices on the first 300 cubic feet a month are substantially less than the cost of serving such customers."

#### Saving to Some

The new rates will increase the cost of gas to the small customers, who, Holt's figures showed, do not pay their way. To large customers, using more than 4000 cubic feet a month, the new schedule means a saving.

The new schedule provides lower prices for only two classes of customers, house heating and industrial. In both cases, Holt explained, the company finds a reduction necessary to meet competition. "The company is justified in selling at a low figure in these competitive classes if it gets more than the cost of the gas and has something to use toward general expenses," he argued.

"That same argument might be applied to the household customers," Webber suggested.

"That is true to some extent," Holt said. "But we can't treat the main body of customers on that basis and stay in business."

"The result of the rate will not be known until it is tried," he said. "But it will not be excessive on any group of customers and it will not be discriminatory as between groups. So long as the rate is not excessive or discriminatory, the form of the rate should be left to the judgment of management. The final question is whether you accept the judgment of the company's experts or that of the experts for the city, who never had a single day's experience of gas company management."

"Are you going to say that an increase of 2 cents a day is not to be allowed to save the gas company? Are you going to say, when many kinds of business are being allowed, even encouraged, by the Government to raise prices, that the gas company cannot make an increase that is necessary if it is to stay in business?"

Most customers, Holt argued, would not notice the increase "except for the publicity attending a change in rates."

"The community does not want to see the gas company follow the fate of the Boston Elevated when it was

denied a fair rate," he concluded.

#### Earnings Off Sharply

The company's figures showed that the use of gas has been declining, the number of customers has decreased, and the earnings have fallen off sharply in the last few years. Where the average customer in 1930 used 2543 cubic feet of gas a month, the average customer last year used only 2341 cubic feet a month. The decline in volume of sales and in average use of gas per customer have been about 8 percent since 1930.

The company's earnings have fallen from 8 percent in 1932 to 3.7 percent last year and an estimate based on 11

months this year, of 3 percent, on the capital stock of \$48,072,000. On a gross income from gas in 1934 of \$10,734,141, the company's net return was figured at \$1,618,554. For the 11 months of 1935 the net income has been \$1,238,202, Holt stated.

The new rates would give a return of 5 percent, he said, on present sales. The company contends that a 7½-percent yield is necessary to attract new capital. The new rates will still fall \$1,000,000 a year short of this return, Holt said. But some improvement in business is anticipated. The new schedule is designed to promote the sale of additional gas, he said. A step-down rate is effective after the first 1000 cubic feet a month.

Even at the increase asked, customers using under 300 cubic feet will still be served at less than cost to the company, Holt argued. The new schedule, he figured, will yield \$650,000 a year more net income than the present schedule. This would be a 60-percent increase in net income over 1935.

#### Protest by City

The city's protest, as voiced by attorney Weinstein, is, essentially, that the company is earning all it needs, that its increases on small customers are significantly high and that its capitalization cannot be justified. The increase to the 100 cubic feet customer from the present 60 cents to the new rate of \$1 and for the 500 cubic feet customer from \$1 to the new rate of \$1.60 he called a serious increase for large families living on \$12 or \$15 a week.

Weinstein figured that 92 percent of all customers will find their gas bills higher under the proposed rates. The company, he argued, will be disappointed in the result of increasing rates.

Weinstein centered his attack upon the company's capitalization. He declared that the property is worn out to the amount of \$17,000,000 which the capitalization figures do not show because of inadequate depreciation reserves.

Gas mains, which represent more than \$13,000,000 of capital on the company's book, he charged have an actual value, because of depreciation, of far less than that figure. He declared duplication of mains accounts for \$1,500,000, resulting from consolidation of the 14 original companies into the present company, and that \$750,000 of that amount is unnecessary duplication.

He attacked particularly the \$2,441,320 valuation of the water gas property, which he said was used for only one day's gas supply in 1933 and for only five days' supply in 1934. He wanted to write off \$2,301,903 of the water gas plant's valuation, or more than 90 percent of it, contending it is practically unused and valueless since the company began using coal gas. The change from the use of



water gas to coal gas came about, Weinstein said, because of the gas company's relationship to the Koppers Company and because of its ownership by the Massachusetts Gas Companies. By 1932 the company was generating only 2-5 of 1 percent of its gas (this in the water gas plant) and buying all the rest from the Massachusetts Gas Companies or a subsidiary of that organization, he said.

### Water Gas Plant

Holt, in his argument, defended the value of the water gas plant as a "stand by" for peak load use and for emergency. Commissioner Grant asked if its use was not very limited. Holt replied that its cost was just as much even though it filled chiefly an emergency use. Good management demanded a reserve supply and could not take the risk of having the community's gas supply cut off by a short circuit or a heavy snow fall crippling the coal gas plant, he urged.

Holt suggested that a larger depreciation charge will be needed in future. Weinstein seized on this as admission that the capitalization of the company does not show adequately the actual depreciation. He declared that "insufficient depreciation reserve has impaired the capital and the company now wants the consumer to pay for it."

Holt presented figures to show that gas service costs the company \$1.64 a month for every customer, whether any gas is used by the customer in a given month or not. Customers using less than that value of gas a month do not pay their way, he insisted. He ridiculed the city's claims of a \$17,000,000 depreciation in the company's capital plant, and called the city engineer's figures "bogey-reaching appraisals."

But even at the city's figures of a \$30,000,000 capital value, the new rates would yield less than 7½ percent, he urged. He pointed out that the city assesses the company for more than \$30,000,000, and only 60 percent of its plant is in the city. Weinstein argued that the city assessment includes much property that is not used in the gas business and is not legally capitalizable for rate making purposes.

Weinstein did not complete his argument yesterday. Frank Sullivan of Waban, representing a group of customers in opposition to the rate increase, will also be heard today.

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## TRAVELER

Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## CHURCH FIGHTS PARDON MOVE

### Worcester Body Opposes Freeing Man Who Fired Edifice

WORCESTER, Dec. 19—Strong protest against the commutation of sentence of Henry A. Gardner, 32, of Worcester, convicted of setting the fires which destroyed All Saints' Episcopal church and damaged Pleasant Street Baptist church in January, 1932, is expected from membership of both churches. Pleasant Street Baptist church has already adopted a sharply worded resolution of protest, copies of which will be sent to Gov. Curley and Councillor Winfield A. Schuster.

The commutation was recommended by the Governor to make the convict eligible for immediate parole. Gardner is among those mentioned for Christmas pardons. The recommendation is expected to be placed before the Governor's Council Monday morning for consideration by the pardon committee of the council.

Public officials, generally, were unwilling to discuss the Gardner case. Chief of Police Thomas F. Foley and Supt. of Detectives William F. Fineran withheld comment, as did Lieut. Robert E. Molt, in charge of arson cases under the state fire marshal.

Deputy Fire Chief Fred S. Taylor, who fought the blaze which Gardner was found guilty of setting, was favorable to the commutation, however, under certain conditions.

"If the man has cleared up his freakishness, I believe he is entitled to freedom," he said.

Moderator H. C. Dunn of the Pleasant street Baptist church pre-membership, which was unanimously sent the resolution to the church adopted, protesting the commutation. The resolution read:

"Pleasant Street Baptist church protests the plan to commute this man's sentence, on the ground that sufficient time for adequate punishment has not been served as yet. The church protests a parole for this man, Henry A. Gardner, and we feel that it is not for the best inter-

ests of our community for the prisoner to have his liberty at this time."

The Lester C. Holmes, pastor of the church, said: "I am decidedly against the commutation of Gardner's sentence. He is too dangerous a man to have around. I will protest any effort to commute the sentence."

W. Emory Wardwell, a vestryman and treasurer of All Saints' church, declared he was emphatically against the commutation of the Gardner sentence and that he was opposed to parole, although formal action by the church will await the next meeting of the vestrymen.

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DEC 19 1935

Date

## NEW ADAMS COURT CLERK / ACTIVE CURLEY WORKER

ADAMS, Dec 18—Attorney Daniel E. Kiley Jr, appointed court clerk today, was born in North Adams, but has lived virtually all of his life in Adams. He was graduated from Adams High School in 1923. He was a star football and baseball player there.

He attended St Michael's College for two years and then transferred to Georgetown, graduating from the college and then the Law School in 1930. He was admitted to the District of Columbia bar the week after graduation and practiced law in the office of attorney William Leahy in Washington, D C.

Mr Kiley returned to Adams a few years later and studied in the Pittsfield office of attorney Thomas F. Cassidy, one of Gov Curley's closest friends and a member of the State Racing Commission. He was appointed accountant in the Adams E. R. A. office on Oct 4, 1934, and

held that position until last Thursday, when the office was closed.

Mr Kiley was one of the first men in Adams to declare for Gov Curley and besides helping to form the Curley Club in Adams, of which he was secretary, he organized a Curley Club in Savoy.

Mr Kiley lives with his parents on Myrtle st.



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DEC 19 1935

## W. P. A. HELP MISSING AT CAPE CAMP SITE

### Surveyors Alone Are Found Working at Falmouth

FALMOUTH, Dec 18—Although a tract of land recently purchased by the Commonwealth in Bourne, Falmouth and Sandwich.

Gov Curley announced last week that an allotment of \$300,000 had been received from the Federal Government for beginning Guard camp work, and that it would get underway today. The plan is to clear off an area sufficient to make the site usable for tents so that the 26th Division troops can use it for the first time next Summer. New roads must be cut in to the camp site.

Only parties of surveyors and party of surveyors worked on mapping out the new Massachusetts National Guard camp today, no actual work got underway in clearing off the pine and oak clad site nor in brushing out roads to the 12,000 acre helpers about 30 in number, could be found this afternoon on the area near Ashumet Pond where the camp is to be located. Two National Guard planes flew over the site.

It is believed here some hitch occurred in getting authorization to spend Federal funds. Some contend that the work may be held up because there is no sufficient labor supply available.

Under rules governing W. P. A. allotments such as advanced to begin work on the National Guard camp, only unemployed men on relief rolls in this particular area may be handed jobs. If all such men available already have work, it is possible the project may be delayed until others are completed.

At Bourne town hall it was stated today all registered relief applicants, able bodied men, were already at work. Neither Falmouth, Barnstable nor Mashpee has received requests for W. P. A. workers, officials reported.

Also causing much speculation here is whether the state will provide living quarters for men sent to work on the camp. It is many miles from the nearest village, and if men are sent down from Plymouth, Brockton, New Bedford or Fall River, it will be a journey of more than 50 miles from their homes.

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DEC 19 1935

## CLERGY OPPOSE FREEING MAN

### Curley Sets Monday for Worcester Case Hearing

Gov James M. Curley today announced that he had requested the pardons' committee of the Executive Council to hold a hearing at 10 o'clock next Monday morning to persons desiring to protest against the extension of Executive clemency to Henry A. Gardner of Worcester who is now serving a 10-to-12-year sentence for maliciously burning a building in his native city.

The Governor pointed out that his approval of commutation of sentence was supported by the unanimous recommendations of "every official connected with the penal department and with corrections," but owing to the reports of protests he was giving this opportunity to those opposed to his action in the case, to voice their protests.

Reports of protests from Worcester clergymen and parishioners against the proposed clemency for Gardner prompted the Governor's decision to hold a public hearing on the commutation of Gardner's sentence from one of 10-to-12 years to one of from 4-to-12 years. The commutation would make Gardner eligible for parole on Christmas Day.

"If a protest is justified in this case by those men who teach of forgiveness, and they are influenced in their views even in the shadow of Christmas and all that it conveys, then there is no way to justify granting pardons or commutations to any offender," the Governor said.

"The protest made by certain church dignitaries of Worcester, the Governor continued, "has been of such character that I have decided to refer the protest to the committee on pardons of the Executive Council, which meets on Monday, two days prior to Christmas, at the Council chamber here in the State House.

### Penal Officials Approved

"My approval of the commutation in this case was based on the fact that it was one of the few cases where every official connected with the Penal Department and with corrections were unanimous in their approval of the commutation of sentence, a recommendation having been approved by Commissioner of Correction Lyman, Chairman of the Parole Board Richard Olney, Matthew W. Bullock and P. Emmett Gavin, also by Warden G. Francis J. W. Lannigan of state prison and Supt Maurice Winslow of the state prison colony.

"The recommendation in this case was based so far as I have been able to ascertain, on the fact that the man had served four years, that it was his first offense, and that unquestionably he was not in his right mind at the time the offense was committed, being under the influence of liquor.

### Sure of Acceptance

"I am quite sure that the committee on pardons of the Governor's Council will accept my recommendation and grant a hearing to those who have voiced a protest, and any individual desiring to appear in objection to approval by the pardon committee of the Governor's Council to the granting of same, is at liberty to be present at the session of that body in the Council Chamber on Monday morning at 10."

Shortly after the Governor had made this announcement, Councilor Frank A. Brooks of Watertown, a member of the Council's Committee on Pardons, issued a statement to the effect that he "had examined carefully the folder in the Gardner case and can find absolutely no reason whatever why I should vote for the recommended commutation of sentence."

Other members of the Pardons committee of the Council include Lieut Gov Joseph L. Hurley, Councilors Daniel H. Coakley, Joseph B. Grossman and James L. Brennan;

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## JUST A RUMOR ON AGED JUDGES

Gov Curley admitted today that rumors he was intending to retire Supreme Court judges who had passed the age of 70 had been called to his attention, but he said the reports originated elsewhere than with him.

"I have been asked several times," he said, "whether there is any truth in the rumor that I was to remove certain Supreme Court judges for physical or mental disabilities due to their advanced age, but I told the person that asked me the question that I hadn't even heard the rumor."



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### BARRY ASKS GOVERNOR'S AID FOR "L" TRACKS REMOVAL

In a letter to Gov Curley yesterday, Representative E. Barry of East Boston urged the Governor to include in his annual message to the Legislature the importance of the removal of the Elevated structures in Charlestown.

The letter: "May I respectfully urge that Your Excellency take whatever steps may be necessary to reach a successful conclusion in the matter of the removal of the Elevated structures in the Charlestown district of the city of Boston.

"It is not, of course, within my province to advise Your Excellency, but I respectfully urge the incorporation of this matter in your inaugural address to the Legislature, and you may rest assured that my undivided support will be given to whatever Your Excellency may advise in this matter."

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### Church Group Protests Plan to Parole Gardner

WORCESTER, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Pleasant Street Baptist Church, one of the churches allegedly fired by Henry A. Gardner, convicted incendiary, to-night protested vigorously to Gov. James M. Curley against his proposal to the executive council to-day that Gardner's sentence be commuted, making him eligible for almost immediate parole.

The church resolution, a copy of which was sent to the Governor and to Councillor Winfield A. Schuster of the 13th district, said there has not been "sufficient time for adequate punishment" and that it was "not for the best interests of the community for the prisoner to have his liberty yet."

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### CURLEY SEEKS COMMUTATIONS

Urges Clemency for Four  
Lifers and Worcester  
Pyromaniac

Gov. Curley yesterday recommended the extension of executive clemency to four killers and one confessed pyromaniac now serving long term sentences at state prison. The executive council will meet in special session Monday to consider granting them commutations which will make them eligible for immediate parole.

The Governor also announced that he has authorized the department of correction to release 200 state farm inmates and 20 women's reformatory inmates before Christmas. Most of them were committed for drunkenness.

The state board of parole, at his direction, also will release 15 first offenders from the reformatory at Concord with the release of 14 others to be ordered before Jan. 31.

### REIGN OF TERROR

The state prison convicts for whom he has recommended sentence commutations are Samuel Powers of Westfield and Wojelech Birosz of Salem, lifers; and William Hooper of Lynn, Henry A. Gardner of Worcester and Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge.

The arrest of Gardner early in 1932 brought an end to a reign of terror that had existed in Worcester following a long series of serious fires, one of which resulted in the destruction of the All Saints Episcopal Church at a loss of \$250,000. He has served less than three years of a 10 to 12-year sentence imposed after he was found guilty on six counts of arson. Police attributed the setting of 35 fires to him.

He was a self-confessed "hip" man in a speakeasy and pyromaniac. Pressed to account for his actions, he said, "I can't help it. It's just an overpowering impulse which comes over me." Police said he had been drinking when he was arrested and he explained, "I always take a few" before setting out on an incendiary mission. His arrest resulted in leaving public buildings unguarded in the night time after a long period of vigilance.

Among the fires he confessed to starting were the All Saints Episcopal Church and the Pleasant Street Baptist Church in the same neighborhood.

### KILLED HIS WIFE

Powers, a Negro, has served nearly 21 years of a life sentence imposed for the murder of his wife by choking.

Birosz, alias Biros, alias Birusz, has served 16 years of a life sentence for the murder of 17-year-old Mary Blanche Lavoie at Salem in 1918. He shot her to death as she was leaving a Salem dance hall. He had been employed with the young woman at the Naumkeag mills.

His plea for commutation of sentence was rejected by former Gov. Ely in 1934 after he had been given a hearing before the state parole board. He was defended in superior court by William H. McSweeney, now the senator from Salem.

Panetta has served nearly six years of a 12 to 20 year term for the murder of Dominic Simonetti.

Hooper beat William J. Lewey to death at Nahant nearly three years ago and gave himself up to police. The victim, a married man, was accused of paying attention to Hooper's 17-year-old sister, who was at the time confined to a Swampscott maternity home.



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## KIRK AND LONG STAY IN OFFICE

Council Defers Action on  
Murphy to Be Agri-  
culture Head

### NO NOMINATIONS FOR 4 VACANCIES

Under suspension of rules the executive council yesterday confirmed Gov. Curley's nomination of Lt.-Col. Paul G. Kirk of Newton to a new term as state commissioner of public safety and of Henry F. Long of Topsfield to continue in office as state commissioner of corporations and taxation.

The council again voted to defer action on the Governor's pending nomination of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville to succeed Edgar L. Gillett of Canton as state commissioner of agriculture.

No action was taken by the Governor on the expired tenures of Raymond J. Kenney of Belmont, state director of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman of Westwood, state commissioner of correction; Brig.-Gen. Richard K. Hale, associate commissioner of public works, and Maj. George J. Cronin of Boston, state purchasing agent.

#### OTHER NOMINATIONS

Other nominations submitted to the council were:

Dr. Andrew D. Guthrie of Medford to succeed Dr. Fritz W. Gay of Malden as associate medical examiner of the second Middlesex district.

Daniel E. Kiley of Adams to succeed Edwin K. McPeck of Adams as clerk of the fourth district court of Berkshire.

Daniel Lucey of Malden to succeed Nicholas A. Loumos of Boston as public administrator.

Albert A. Ward of Newton, reappointed clerk of the southern Norfolk district court.

Frank H. Peterson of Medford, reappointed pilot commissioner of district 1.

Orville S. Pinkham of Watertown, reappointed pilot commissioner of district 1.

John Sullivan of Fall River, to succeed D. Gardiner O'Keefe of Taunton as deputy pilot commissioner of district 4.

James S. McQuade of New Bedford, to succeed Manuel P. Marshall of New Bedford as deputy pilot commissioner of district 3.

Arthur J. O'Neil of Quincy, stenographer in the executive department.

Lt.-Col. Kirk took the oath of office before Gov. Curley shortly after his nomination had been confirmed. He has served 13 months, having been appointed to succeed Maj.-Gen. Daniel Needham of Newton, who voluntarily retired. Col. Kirk has a five-year term at an annual salary of \$6000. Commissioner Long's term is three years and his salary is \$7500.

The council approved Commissioner Long's appointments of Festus M. Flaherty of Boston, Frederick T. Openshaw of Fall River and John F. Kelley of Medford to be deputy income tax assessors. The three Republican councillors voted against approval.

Councillors Schuster and Brooks also voted against authorizing the executive appointment of Francis R. Mullin of Winchester as agent for Massachusetts in pressing a claim against the federal government for \$233,885 for compensation for expenditures during the civil war in protecting harbors and coast fortifications.

The council also approved a transfer of \$8282 from the extraordinary fund to cover a shortage in the trustee fund at state prison which consists of bank deposits of prison inmates. The shortage resulted from the closing of the Charlestown Trust Company where the funds of the inmates had been invested.

The council approved the public works contract awarded to Merritt, Chapman and Scott Corp. of New London for the reconstruction of platforms at Commonwealth pier on a bid of \$717,940.

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## Educational Leaders Disappointed By Ousting of Dr. Payson Smith

Leaders of many civic and educational organizations, which for several months had been urging the reappointment of Dr. Payson Smith as commissioner of education, last night expressed disappointment that Dr. Smith had been dropped.

Some of the comments follow:

Willard Atwell, president of the Massachusetts School Superintendents' Association—"I believe it was a serious mistake not to retain the present commissioner of education."

Mrs. Grace I. Woodbury, president of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation—"Twelve of the directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation at a meeting Tuesday night voted their approval of Mr. Reardon's appointment. But eight voted against approval, two sent telegrams of protest against the vote and three were absent and unrecorded. As far as I know, the name of Mr. Reardon was never presented to the teachers of Massachusetts."

Joseph Lee, president of the Massachusetts Civic League—"The injury to the people of Massachusetts from the loss of his position by Dr. Payson Smith is a matter greatly to be deplored."

Mrs. Paul H. Kelsey, president of the Massachusetts Parent-Teachers' Association, said:

"Terrible, terrible. The 22,000 members of our association have for the past two months been sending hundreds of letters and telegrams to Curley, begging him to reappoint Dr. Smith. He was the perfect man for the job. But that other man on Beacon Hill doesn't mean to do the right thing. He's only looking for votes and looking out for himself."

"His failure to reappoint Dr. Smith is the silliest thing I ever heard of. There stands one man against all the people who have spent their entire lives fighting and working for better education in Massachusetts. One man for himself. These are pretty discouraging times, but we stand back of our original determination in favor of Dr. Smith. I hope that this final act will be the finish of Mr. Curley."

James A. Chalmers of Fitchburg, president Massachusetts High School Principals' Association—"The matter of the appointment of a commissioner of education is one for the Governor and council to decide. I know nothing about the qualifications of Mr. Reardon, but since he has been duly appointed we will cooperate with him in every way."



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# SMITH'S REMOVAL ANGERS EDUCATORS

## REARDON TAKES OVER SCHOOL OFFICE TODAY

Adams Superintendent  
Confirmed by Straight  
Democratic Vote

PLUNKETT, WATT  
JOIN IN PROTEST

Appointment Is for Five-  
Year Term at Annual  
Salary of \$9000

By W. E. MULLINS

James G. Reardon, 36-year-old Boston College graduate and superintendent of schools in the town of Adams, will take the oath of office today as state commissioner of education amid widespread indignation among educators at the removal of Commissioner Payson Smith of Brookline after 20 years of service as head of this department.

Dr. Smith's long tenure was brought to an abrupt end yesterday afternoon, when the executive council by a vote of 6 to 3 confirmed Gov. Curley's nomination of Reardon for the post after the council had rejected the Governor's previous nomination

of Dr. Smith by a vote of 5 to 4.

At noon the Governor announced that he would submit Dr. Smith's reappointment to the council, but that Reardon's nomination would be submitted in the event Dr. Smith was denied confirmation.

### LONG CONFERENCE

Prior to the council session the Governor conferred privately with Lt.-Gov. Hurley and the five Democratic councillors for 80 minutes. Within 15 minutes after this prolonged conference rules had been suspended to arrange for the rejection of Smith's nomination and Reardon's confirmation.

On the rollcalls in the council, Councillors Winfield A. Schuster of Douglas, Joseph B. Grossman of Quincy and Frank A. Brooks of Watertown, Republicans, voted to confirm Smith and to reject Reardon. Lt.-Gov. Hurley voted to confirm Smith and subsequently voted to confirm Reardon.

Councillors Daniel H. Coakley of Boston, James J. Brennan of Somerville, William G. Hennessey of Lynn, Philip J. Russell of Fall River and Morton H. Burdick of West Springfield, Democrats, voted to reject Smith's nomination and to confirm Reardon's nomination.

The appointment of education commissioner is for a term of five years at an annual salary of \$9000, the second highest salary in the state service except for the judiciary. The only department salary in excess of this is the \$10,000 paid the commissioner of mental diseases.

Dr. Smith had no comment to make on the procedure which resulted in his ouster after having served continuously as the head of the department of education since 1916, when he was originally appointed by the late Gov. Samuel W. McCall. He was reappointed successfully by Govs. Coolidge, Fuller and Allen.

## New School Head



JAMES G. REARDON

Numerous protests, however, were registered by educators and spokesmen for various civic organizations, not against the appointment of Reardon, but against the removal of Dr. Smith, whose term expired Dec. 1.

### PLUNKETT PROTESTS

Objection to the appointment was made by Senator Theodore R. Plunkett, a Republican, who supported the Governor's policies in the Legislature. Plunkett's protest was significant because he is a resident of the town where Reardon now serves as superintendent of schools.

Reardon was not sworn into office yesterday by the Governor because he was in Adams. He is expected to be at the State House some time this morning to assume his new duties.

*continued*



was born in Medway July 1881. He attended the grammar schools there before going at Boston College from which he graduated in 1923. In 1924 he served in the U. S. Army. He received a degree from Boston College and has since taken additional courses

as principal of a school in Medway and also taught in a high school for a year. He was appointed superintendent of an office he filled for one year and resigned last spring. He was appointed superintendent of the Brockton district in September.

He is married to Anita Thorndike, a daughter of Judge Herbert C. Thorndike of the Brockton district. He has four children, two sons and two daughters, who live in Adams.

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Reardon. He has a son, Lawrence J., John H. Reardon. He is a member of the American Legion and the Columbus.

#### PROTEST FROM WATT

The only protest against his nomination made by anyone associated with the Curley administration came from Robert J. Watt, member of the state unemployment compensation commission. His statement follows:

"If Mr. Reardon is quoted correctly in saying that he is 1000 per cent. for the teachers' oath, that statement alone should disqualify him as commissioner. Massachusetts is the birthplace of American liberty and it should not be its graveyard."

People who believe in the teachers' oath are believers in the scientific method of teaching, which is the regimentation of school children by teachers. If a man who believes in the form of teaching is appointed to the walls of Fanueil Hall will begin to tumble."

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1935

## BRUTALITY ON BEACON HILL

The Commonwealth has become so accustomed recently to hang its head in shame at the flagrant disregard on Beacon Hill of wholesome old principles and upright old practices that it expects additional outrages as a matter of course for another year. Nevertheless, the whole community will be shocked by the heartless ousting of Dr. Payson Smith, commissioner of education, and the immediate appointment and confirmation of his successor.

We lose a liberal, high-minded, conscientious, capable gentleman, who has served us admirably for twenty years without any thought of race, religion, partisan politics or anything except the good of the Commonwealth.

He has had the confidence and respect of every Governor but Mr. Curley. He has made the department of education one of the finest in the country, and a model for our sister states. Practically all the school superintendents in Massachusetts, with the conspicuous exception of the Adams man who replaces him, not only endorsed him but pleaded that he should have another term. Our own superintendent of schools, Patrick T. Campbell, was foremost in the vain effort to persuade the Governor to go the way of decency.

The peremptory removal of Commissioner Smith was obviously due to cheap, shoddy politics on the part of the Governor and of a Council majority which he dominates whenever he cares to. No other valid explanation of the proceedings of yesterday can be offered. In his blind rage at Republicans and at all others who refuse to do his bidding, the Governor is running amuck without concern for the damage which he is inflicting on the Commonwealth.

And how cowardly his tactics were! Disgraceful as the removal itself was, the methods employed were just as bad. The Governor went in mock seriousness through the empty formality of first presenting the name of Commissioner Smith, well knowing that by prearrangement the Council would refuse to confirm. The Governor is utterly childish if he has the notion that this self-serving action will deceive anybody, even the most gullible. He aggravated his gross offence by his transparent attempt to set up an alibi in advance.

The whole episode marks a new low in the administration of the affairs of this Commonwealth. One more charge has been added to the long list on which the unpacked jury of the people will vote when they go to the polls next year.



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*continued*



Reardon was born in Medway July 22, 1900. He attended the grammar and high schools there before matriculating at Boston College from which he was graduated in 1923. In his freshman year he served in the B. C. R. O. T. C. unit. He received his master's degree from Boston College and pursued additional courses at Harvard.

He served as principal of a school in East Bridgewater and also taught in the town's high school for a year before being appointed superintendent of schools, an office he filled for eight years. He resigned last spring and was appointed superintendent at Adams in September.

While teaching at East Bridgewater he married Anita Thorndike, daughter of late Judge Herbert C. Thorndike of the Brockton district court. They have four children, two of whom attend school in Adams.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Reardon, live in Medway. He has three brothers, Lawrence J., John H. and William A. Reardon. He is a member of the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus.

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# FRIENDS OF SMITH IRED BY REMOVAL

## Planning Statement in Criticism of the Governor

Although Payson Smith, commissioner of education since 1916, last night declined to make any statement "at present," many of his friends are said to be preparing a statement criticising the Governor and Council for replacing him yesterday, and giving the position to James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams.

The new commissioner was expected to assume his office at once, but he did not come into Boston until last evening, and he will be sworn in by Governor Curley today.

Friends of Commissioner Smith are understood to have urged Governor Curley yesterday morning to submit his name at once. The Governor told the Smith supporters that he would be willing to submit the name, but that after a conference with members of the Council he found that all of the Democrats, with the exception of Lieutenant-Governor Joseph L. Hurley, were opposed to his reappointment.

They urged that the appointment be submitted in any event, apparently believing that a majority of the Council would vote for his confirmation.

### Beaten by 5 to 4

When the name of Mr. Smith came up for consideration on the question of confirmation, Mr. Hurley joined with the Republican Councilors—Frank A. Brooks, Winfield A. Schuster and Joseph B. Grossman—in favor of confirmation, but the five Democratic Councilors—Daniel H. Coakley, William G. Hennessey, James J. Brennan, Philip J. Russell and Morton H. Burdick—voted against confirmation.

With the Smith appointment rejected, the Governor immediately submitted the name of Mr. Reardon, and it was confirmed, 6 to 3. Lieutenant-Governor Hurley voted with his Democratic colleagues on the roll-call.



### MOTHER AND WIFE CONGRATULATE REARDON

Mrs. William H. Reardon, left, arose at midnight last night to greet her son, the new State commissioner of education, who is seen with her and his wife, Mrs. Anita Thorndike Reardon, in the living room of the Reardon home in Medway.

### Milked Cows as Boy

In Medway people who have known the Reardons for many years were overjoyed last night to hear that James Gerard Reardon, better known as "Roddy," had been made commissioner of education for Massachusetts.

They recalled his school days when he helped his father, William H. Reardon, milk the cows before and after school, a custom he followed even while commuting to Boston every day to attend Boston College, where he graduated in the class of 1923.

His father, although 80, works every day at his bench in a local mill, and says he is never going to retire. He got the news of his son's appointment yesterday and still did not quit his work.

### School His Delight

His mother, Mrs. Mary Agnes (McGinnis) Reardon was also overjoyed when she heard the news. The new commissioner is the youngest of four brothers. He has no sisters. He will be 36 July 22. His father and mother

were born in Medway and are the oldest married couple in town. They celebrate their golden wedding next year. "Never," said his mother, "did he ever have any trouble in school. School was his delight."

One of his brothers, John H. Reardon, is manager of the local woolen mill. Another brother, William A. Reardon, is an inspector in the State Motor Vehicles Department. A third brother is a railroad representative in Boston.

James was graduated from Medway High School in 1919. After he graduated from Boston College he took a position teaching in East Bridgewater and became principal of the school and later superintendent of schools. From here he went to Adams as superintendent of schools.

The new commissioner married the former Miss Anita Thorndike of Brockton and they have four children, Cynthia, 6; James, 4; Susan, 3, and Rosemary, 1.

### Has Definite Ideas

Commissioner Reardon, at the home of his parents early this morning, said he had "some very definite ideas about his duties," but that he would not make them public until the swearing in at the State House today.

Commissioner Reardon and his wife left Adams by automobile at 8 o'clock last night, making stops at Holyoke and at Springfield, where they visited the Rev. Father Charles Duffy, who is ill in a hospital there. They reached the Medway home at midnight, to be greeted by a group of friends and relatives.

The commissioner's mother had retired at her usual time, 9 o'clock, but dressed to come down and greet her son in the living room. Tears of joy were in her eyes. Because of her feebleness, she will not be able to take in the ceremony at the State House at 11:30 today. And early this morning, Commissioner Reardon's father was uncertain about being on the job as usual at the mill this morning.



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## FREEDOM TO 240 IN JAIL NOW LIKELY

Governor and Council  
Act Monday; Young  
Firebug on List



WILLIAM HOOPER

On Governor's Christmas pardon list.

Christmas will see the largest number of prisoners released from Massachusetts penal institutions in the history of the State. Five long termers from Charlestown will come before the Governor and Council at 10 a. m. Monday morning for action. At noon their pleas will be heard.

### 200 AT BRIDGEWATER

Aside from this 200 inmates of Bridgewater State Farm, most of whom are classed officially as "being there for drunkenness," will be freed. They need

no consent of the Governor. At the women's reformatory at Sherborn 20 women will be released and from the Concord reformatory 15 first-offenders. This makes a record for Massachusetts for any pardon period. A grand total of 240 prisoners let loose. Prior to this 75 was the maximum, for instance, for Bridgewater releases, according to a former member of the Parole Board. Inmates of Concord and Sherborn were pardoned in two's and three's.

It was also interesting to note that of the five Charlestown prisoners up for pardon four of them were incarcerated for crimes of passion. The fifth was convicted of setting fire and burning a Worcester church, and his pyromaniac activities cost that city more than \$100,000. He has done less than two years.

At the same time there was among the pardons one for a young man whose sentencing to State prison the judge seemed to regret, as he carried out his mandate. That was the case of William A. Hooper of Lynn. When he was sentenced in 1933 Judge Frederick W. Fosdick had some pertinent things to say about his case.

"No jury on earth," said the judge in passing sentence, "would ever find this youth guilty of first degree murder, or even of second degree murder."

Hooper had killed—with a machinist's hammer—William Lewey, 35, father of several children and a full-blood Micmac Indian, of having relations with Hooper's young sister, Marion. He struck and killed him on the sands between Nahant and Little Nahant. Lewey was a war veteran and had been living in the Hooper household in Lynn. Young Hooper was living in Glastonbury, Conn., and returned to Lynn for the purpose of meeting Lewey, he admitted, after friends had written him about the affair between his sister and the Indian.

### Killed His Wife

Daniel Powers of Westfield, another lifer, is to be considered for pardon by the Governor. He killed his wife over another man. On Feb. 20, 1914, they sent him away.

Next on the Governor's list comes Stephen Biros of Salem. Here, too, was a crime of passion. Biros had been keeping company with Marie B. Lavole. They had a quarrel. She went to a dance and when she left the dance hall Biros shot her. He has always claimed that he was set upon by thugs and his gun went off by accident.

Thomas J. Panetta of Concord avenue, Cambridge, went to prison for the murder of Dominic Simonetti, also of Cambridge. Thomas was keeping company with a 15-year-old girl with the approval of her parents. Dominic, much older, cut in. Dominic was killed.

In Worcester, however, the consideration for pardons is not well received. Here was Henry A. Gardner being released for the worst confessed firebug break in the history of the city. All Saints Church burned to the ground. A matter of \$100,000 worth of property destroyed. He was given 12 years. Worcester made a great deal of this pardon considered yesterday. Gardner comes from a well known county family.

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POST

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DEC 19 1935

## VOTE FOR TRY TO GET \$233,885

Councillors Sanction  
Lawyer for Civil  
War Debt

On recommendation of Governor Curley, the Executive Council yesterday approved payment on a basis of a 10 per cent commission to Francis R. Mullin of Winchester if he is successful in collecting \$233,885.82 said to be due the State from the federal government for money expended during the Civil war.

Payment of money cannot be made until legislation is secured in Washington. The money was spent by the State at the request of President Lincoln in protecting harbors and fortifying the coast.

### SEES SOUND CLAIM

Governor Curley referred the matter to the Council on a statement of Attorney Mullin that he believes the State has a sound claim to the money, but that previous efforts to collect it, during the administration of former Governor Eben S. Draper, were unsuccessful because legislation was necessary. The Governor told the Council that Mr. Mullin will undertake to secure the necessary action by Congress.

Transfer of \$8282.08 from the extraordinary fund under the control of the Governor and Council to trustees funds at the State prison was voted by the Council, also on recommendation of the Governor.

This transfer resulted from the fact that so-called trustee funds which are made up of funds belonging to inmates had been deposited in the closed Charlestown Trust Company. With the closing of the bank the shortage in the funds was approximately \$11,000, but in the liquidation of the bank dividends have been paid which bring the balance due down to the amount trans-

*Continued*



Concluded

pointment was confirmed under suspension of the rules.

The council again postponed for another week action on the confirmation of Howard Haynes Murphy of Osterville for commissioner of agriculture.

Augustine J. Lawlor of Lawrence was confirmed as a member of the State Board of Registration in Pharmacy. He succeeds William Hardie of Fall River, transferred yesterday. As future dividends are paid in the liquidation of the bank payments will be returned to the extraordinary fund.

Councillors Frank A. Brooks and Winfield A. Schuster voted against approving the plan of Attorney Mullin for collection of the Civil war money, and Councillor Brooks voted against transfer of the prison money, contending that, in his opinion, that was a matter which should be taken care of by legislation at the coming session.

#### Cling to Party Lines

Along straight party lines, by a vote of 6 to 3, the Council approved appointment of three new deputy income tax assessors. Councillors Brooks, Schuster and Joseph B. Grossman voted against the appointments. The men were appointed by Henry F. Long, tax commissioner, as follows: Festus M. Flaherty, 40 Asset street, Boston; Frederick T. Openshaw, 344 Sprague street, Fall River, and John P. Kelley, 32 Ridgeway road, Medford.

Mr. Long was reappointed tax commissioner and his appointment was confirmed under suspension of the rules without opposition.

Paul G. Kirk was reappointed commissioner of public safety and he also received unanimous confirmation in the council. He was sworn in for another five-year term yesterday afternoon.

Daniel E. Kiley of Adams was appointed clerk of the Fourth District Court of Berkshire in place of Edwin K. McPeck.

Andrew D. Guthrie of Medford was named assistant medical examiner of the Second Middlesex District, in place of Fritz W. Gay. Clerk Albert A. Ward of Newton was given a reappointment as clerk of the District Court of Southern Norfolk and his ap-

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#### WHY?

If James G. Reardon was the man for the post of Commissioner of Education and, for all the Post knows, he may be most admirably equipped for the position, why was it necessary to go through all this hypocritical hocus pocus to land him in office.

Was it necessary to call a hasty meeting of the directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers and jam through an endorsement against the violent protests of the minority?

Was it necessary for the Governor to give the public the idea that he wanted to reappoint Commissioner Smith and did so only to have the Council balk on him and refuse to confirm Mr. Smith? Hardly, considering the whole farce comedy was arranged in advance.

The whole business reeks with political chicanery of a sort unusual in Massachusetts.

Our citizens are getting a liberal education into the wiles of politics these days.

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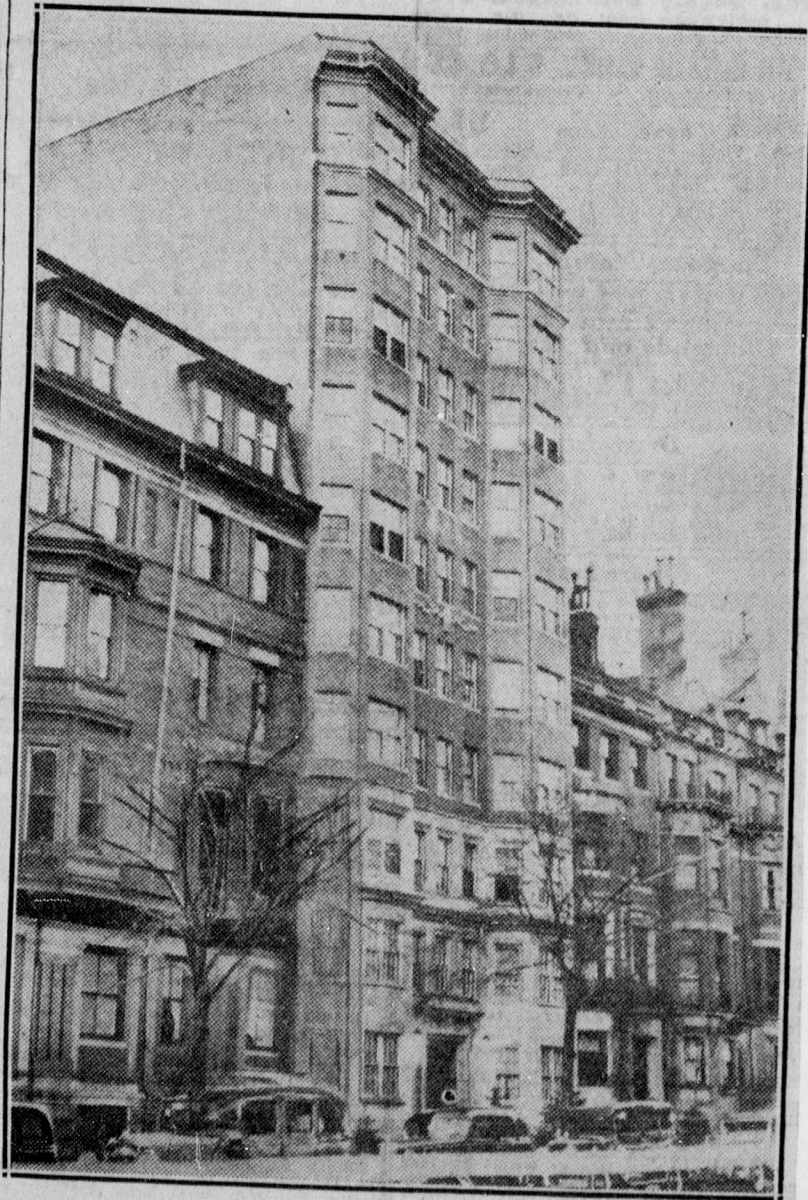
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## WHERE DONNELLYS WILL LIVE



In an apartment on the sixth floor front at 250 Beacon street, Edward C. Donnelly and his bride, the former Mary Curley, will make their home. The six-room suite will be furnished ready for occupancy the first of the year. The lease was taken yesterday.



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## RECORD

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### HUNTING DEATH IS UNDER PROBE

Nantucket, Dec. 18—With foul play suspected, state police announced today an inquest will be held Jan. 8 here into the death of George Sylvia, 25, whose shooting on the second day of the hunting season caused the selectmen to request Gov. Curley to bring it to an end.

Police said a preliminary investigation will take place in New Bedford on Friday. Sylvia, who left a widow and four young children, was guiding a party of four hunters when he was shot to death by some unidentified person.

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## RECORD

Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

### REARDON NEW SCHOOL HEAD

Increasing political speculation regarding three important state commissionerships ended suddenly yesterday when, in surprise moves, Gov. Curley appointed and the executive council confirmed the following:

James G. Reardon, superintendent of schools at Adams, to be Commissioner of Education for five years at \$9000 a year, succeeding Dr. Payson Smith, commissioner since 1916.

Lieut.-Col. Paul G. Kirk, reappointed commissioner of public safety for five years at \$6000 a year.

Henry F. Long, reappointed commissioner of corporations and taxation for three years at \$7500 a year.

Gov. Curley first reappointed Commissioner Smith at the time he reappointed Kirk and Long. He said that if the Executive Council failed to confirm Dr. Smith he would name Reardon to the commissionership.

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## RECORD

Boston, Mass.

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### ALL GOOD MEN

The appointment by Governor Curley yesterday and confirmation by the Executive Council of James G. Reardon, Superintendent of Schools at Adams, to be State Commissioner of Education, put into this important office a man who, the Daily Record believes, exemplifies one of the most vital requirements in our educational system—uncompromising Americanism.

Mr. Reardon is firmly against the spread of Socialism and Communism among our school children. He believes and has openly stated that teachers who spread this type of propaganda should be driven from our schools.

Holding these views, Mr. Reardon has declared himself as:

**"One thousand per cent in favor of the Teachers' Oath law."**

These opinions firmly interlock. It is logical that an educator who stands four-square against radical and Communistic propaganda in our schools should endorse the pledges of allegiance to our federal and state Constitutions which are required by the Teachers' Oath law.

Mr. Reardon has been endorsed for the Commissionership by a majority of the directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation, representing 21,000 teachers.

He has become a career man in the educational field, although it is only a few years since he was graduated from Boston College. High school teacher, then principal, then superintendent, he now moves up to a state administrative post where his abilities and sound views will have broader opportunities.

The reappointment yesterday of Paul G. Kirk as State Commissioner of Public Safety will be approved by the public and will be particularly gratifying to his host of friends. During the 14 months he has been at the head of the Department of Public Safety and in control of its police and detective units Colonel Kirk has conducted his office efficiently and has kept high the morale of his large staff of subordinates.

An expert in taxation is continued in office by the reappointment of Henry F. Long as Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation. He was first placed in that difficult post by the late Calvin Coolidge 15 years ago this week. He is widely known for his detailed knowledge of the intricacies of taxation. In reappointing him Governor Curley has continued a valuable man in the service of the state.



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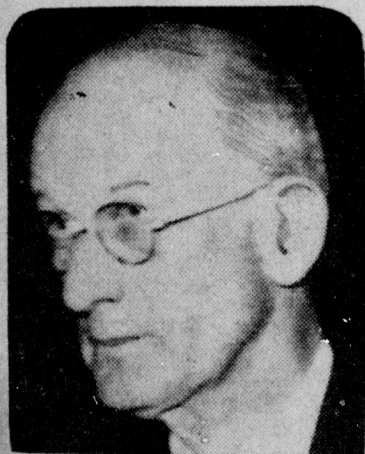
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DEC 19 1935

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Gov. Curley first reappointed Commissioner Smith at the time he reappointed Kirk and Long. He said that if the Executive Council failed to confirm Dr. Smith he would name Reardon to the commissionership.

Reardon had been mentioned in recent discussion of the position and was indorsed for it by a majority of the directors of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation, representing 21,000 teachers, at a meeting Tuesday night.

When the three names came before the council the reappointment of Dr. Smith was rejected by a vote of five to four. It was later revealed that Lt.-Gov. Joseph L. Hurley had split with the other Council Democrats. He voted for Smith with the three Republican Councillors, Grossman Schuster and Brooks.

The Governor promptly named Reardon for Commissioner of Education. He was confirmed by a

straight party vote, six to three, Hurley lining up with his five Democratic colleagues.

Mr. Reardon was graduated from Boston College in 1929, receiving his Master's degree there a year later. He also studied at Harvard and Boston University.

He taught in East Bridgewater High school, was principal of the school for a year and then became superintendent of schools. A year ago he was appointed school superintendent at Adams.

The reappointment of Col. Kirk as Safety Commissioner was unanimously confirmed and he took the oath of office before the Governor left the State House.

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RECORD

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## PARDON FOR 220 ASKED BY CURLEY

Christmas clemency for five inmates of state prison, two of whom are lifers, was recommended to the executive council yesterday by Governor Curley, who also favored release of 200 inmates of the state farm and 15 first offenders from Concord Reformatory.

The governor asked that the life sentence of Samuel Powers of Westfield be commuted to 20 years, making him eligible for parole. He was sentenced from Hampden Superior Court, Feb. 20, 1914, for murder of his wife.

Wojciech Birusz, sentenced to life from Salem for the slaying of his sweetheart, Mary B. Lavoie, after a dance, in April, 1920, was also recommended for parole by commutation of his sentence to one to 20 years, with the understanding that he will be deported to his native Poland.

William A. Hooper of Lynn, who beat to death William Lewey, Nantucket Indian, after a quarrel over his sister, would have his six-year sentence commuted to one of three years under the governor's

recommendation. He has been in State prison since March 24, 1933.

The Governor recommended that the 10-year sentence of Henry A. Gardner, convicted in February, 1932, of burning a building in Worcester, be commuted to one of from 4 to 12 years.

Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge, sentenced in June, 1929, for 12 to 20 years for slaying Dominic Siminette in a fight over a girl, would have his term commuted to 7 to 20 years.



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## GOV. CURLEY AT GARDEN BOU

By S. J. MAHONEY

Governor Curley will be at the ringside tomorrow night at the Boston Garden, when Tony Shucco of the North End defends his two titles, the light heavyweight and heavyweight, when he faces Al McCoy, recent conqueror of Bob Olin, former light heavyweight champion of the world.

His Excellency will be host to a party of friends who are anxious to see the title battle that has been arranged to take place at the Garden for the Boston American Christmas Basket Fund. Yesterday he ordered 30 tickets.

The route is 12 rounds and there is considerable speculation on the outcome.

### EXPECT SHUCCO TO WIN

Many feel that Shucco will outsmart the hard-hitting Waterville boy in the dozen sessions that they will travel.

Interest fairly soars in the match. Reservations have been made by many out of town folks, and Maine cities and towns will be well represented.

One can obtain a fair idea of the interest in the Pine Tree State by one order from Portland, Me.

Chick Hayes, who has been staging bouts there, called Dave Arata yesterday and requested that the genial Dave set aside 150 of his best tickets for Portland friends.

Dave promptly attended to the matter, and the Forest City men will not have to hang on to the line as a result of Hayes' telephone order.

Shucco and McCoy will finish training today. Both are in excellent condition, and their trainers and handlers report they are eager to go.

### ROBERT REAL THORN

It looks as if Yvon Robert, the Canadian wrestler, will become a real thorn for Dan O'Mahoney, the heavyweight champion of the world.

He has money posted to back his claim to the title, and this is significant, in as much as few grapplers or boxers are willing to post their own currency these days.

Robert was here three years ago, but he was given the chill after he won from Pat McGill. He engaged in a few other matches, and won them.

Then the rank and file of wrestlers decided that he was a good fellow to steer away from,

and he didn't have much success obtaining matches thereafter.

Robert went back to Montreal, compiled a record that brought forth much favorable comment, but it was always the same old story. He was given the "chill" when he sought matches with the outstanding wrestlers.

Eddie Quinn of Waltham, who promotes weekly shows in the Watch City, recently made a contact with him, and he is convinced that the Canadian star will be a real champion.

This evening Robert appears in the main bout at the Waltham Arena with Billy Bartush, and a large number of Bostonians will trek there to see him in action with the man who is called the Chicago Assassin.

### FACES TOUGH CUSTOMER

Tomorrow night Jack McAvoy, said to be the best man of his weight developed in England in recent years, steps into the ring at Madison Square Garden, N. Y., with Babe Risko, who is recognized as the middleweight champion of America.

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DEC 19 1935

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WILLIAM HOOPER

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The Governor's recommendation for commutation of a 10-year term of Henry A. Gardner for firing the Pleasant St. Baptist Church, Worcester, was met with protest by

members of the congregation. They said there had not been time for adequate punishment.

Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge, sentenced in June, 1929, for 12 to 20 years for slaying Dominic Siminette in a fight over a girl, would have his term commuted to 7 to 20 years.



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## CURLEY TO SEE SHUCCO, M'COY GARDEN BOUT

By S. J. MAHONEY

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TRANSCRIPT

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## Downes Dinner Will Draw 300 to Lenox Hotel

### Vote of Confidence in B. C.'s Young Head Coach Will Be Cast Tomorrow

By George C. Carens

ath-SS oithra The head table at tomorrow night's dinner at the Lenox to Harry Downes will read like a "Who's Who in Football." Also on hand will be Boston College officials, including Fathers Gallagher and Cummings, and the indications today were that upwards of 300 will gather 'round the festive board to cast a vote of confidence in the young head coach who took over the direction of the Eagle eleven at midseason.

Reports have it that the B. C. authorities intend to reappoint Downes as head coach at the Heights. While it is not believed that such an announcement will be made at the Downes dinner, the natural expectation is that such a turnout of fellow Gridiron Club members and others among his host of friends will provide visible evidence of the high regard in which the young man is held in this community.

Edward M. Gallagher, Jr., who is Jim Roosevelt's secretary, will be toastmaster, and as he was a classmate of Harry's at B. C., he should handle the task with eclat. Governor James M. Curley heads a list of speakers that is bearing up well under the straight of post-season athletic nights, such fellows as Northeastern's Al McCoy, B. U.'s Pat Hanley, the B. C. captain-elect Al Pszenny and others. Sports editors of the Boston papers have accepted invitations to attend, and the committee is headed by Fred Ostergren, James Golden and Arthur Barry.

That must be quite an energetic committee that made arrangements for the LaSalle Academy football dinner at Providence tonight. Coached by Jack Cronin, erstwhile Hingham High and B. C. back, LaSalle won scholastic football honors in the nation's smallest State and among those who will appear to help the boys celebrate their triumphs are Rabbit Maranville, Yale's Larry Kelley and Notre Dame's Bill Shakespeare. The South Bender stopped off at Buffalo last night to talk; he was due at East Boston this afternoon, because after-dinner speakers who are "different" are so much in demand nowadays that they have to fly to cover all their assignments. Governor Green, Mayor Dunne and other notables will be at the Biltmore and Tom Meehan will be toastmaster. If all the speakers listed show up it will be a feather in Eddie Healy's cap. The school's twenty-two-piece orchestra will provide the music.

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DEC 19 1935

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## Many in Prison to Be Released for Christmas

### Curley Authorizes Discharge of 200 from State Farm — Urges Clemency for 2 Lifers

Governor Curley announced yesterday that Correction Commissioner Arthur T. Lyman has authorized the release for Christmas of 200 inmates of the State Farm at Bridgewater.

Practically all of the inmates were committed to the institution for drunkenness.

Commissioner Lyman also plans to release twenty women from the Women's Reformatory at Sherborn.

The State Board of Parole, the governor said, will release fifteen first offenders at the Concord Reformatory and fourteen others before January 31.

The governor said that he will ask the Executive Council today to extend clemency to five other prisoners, two of them lifers, by commuting their sentences which ordinarily would make them eligible for parole.

The lifers are Samuel Powers of Westfield, sentenced in Hampton Superior Court Feb. 20, 1934, for the murder of his wife, and Wojciech Birusz of Salem, sentenced in Essex Superior Court April 20, 1921, for murder of Mary B. Lavole.

In the case of Powers the Council will be asked to commute his sentence to one of twenty years, and in the case of Birusz the governor is asking his sentence to be commuted to twenty years, with the understanding that he will be deported to Poland, his birthplace.

The other three named in the governor's recommendation for clemency are William Hooper of Lynn, sentenced in Essex Superior Court March 24, 1933, to six to seven years for manslaughter. The governor has recommended that his sentence be commuted to from three to seven years.

Henry A. Gardner of Worcester, sentenced in Worcester Superior Court, Feb. 27, 1932, to serve ten to twelve years for burning a building. The governor recommends that his sentence be commuted to four to twelve years.

Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge, sen-



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TRANSCRIPT

Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Reardon Takes Oath as Head of Education

**"If Men Drop Out, Others Better Qualified," Fill Places,  
Says Curley**

In swearing in James G. Reardon as commissioner of education, Governor James M. Curley, alluding to displacing former commissioner, Dr. Payson Smith, said:

"No one is absolutely indispensable," he said. "When we go off this stage others more competent will take our places and the retirement of one man is not the calamity it seems."

Governor Curley told Mr. Reardon that his predecessor, Mr. Smith, had training that was no greater than his successor's. "If men drop out there are others better qualified to take their places, and I am sure that will apply to the board of education," he said.

The governor also commented on the fact that Mr. Reardon's predecessor had come from a neighboring State to assume his duties in Massachusetts.

Dr. Payson Smith, on leaving his post as commissioner of education, expressed to the thousands of school officials, teachers and citizens his deep appreciation of their support through the nineteen years he held office.

The retiring commissioner declared also that the press has been of invaluable service in acquainting the public with the work and activities of the office and in sincere and wholesome criticism of its policies.

"I have taken great pride and satisfaction in the office of commissioner of education, and I have made every effort to discharge its duties in a manner consistent with its high traditions. In that effort, I have had at all times the invaluable support of the members of the State board of education, of my associates on

pass by Ras Imeru's wild warriors, were my staff, and in the associated institutions," Dr. Smith said.

The subversive influences against which the teachers' oath law was enacted could have been corrected without the necessity of using the instrument of law, Commissioner Reardon believes. When the Board of Education heard of radicalism and subversive teachings, it could have put an end to them, he added.

"Communism has no place in the school system," he said, "and I will do everything I can to eradicate radicalism." He was not prepared to say whether he would cause changes to be made in the conduct of the department, saying "I will wait until I am more conversant with it."

After the ceremonies in the governor's office, the new commissioner received his

## New Commissioner of Education



### Sworn in at State House

**Governor James M. Curley Administering the Oath to James G. Reardon,  
New Commissioner of Education, Who Takes the Place of Dr. Payson Smith**

friends in the rooms of the Board of Education, Dr. Smith was not present.

The new commissioner was born in Medway, and graduated from Boston College in 1923. His wife, the former Anita Thorndike, is a daughter of Judge Herbert C. Thorndike of Brockton. They have four children, Cynthia Ann, seven; James G., five; Susan, three, and Rosemary, one.



## TRANSCRIPT

Boston, Mass.

### Low Political Maneuver

"The Governor's Council," Mr. Curley said in his inaugural address, "is a relic of the days of royalty . . . created . . . for social aggrandizement of favorites of the ruling power." Certainly the governor has done everything he could, since taking office, to revive the royal relic and surround it with every attribute of oligarchic control. The balance of votes in the Council as elected by the will of the people has been completely upset through executive appointments giving the governor an unquestionable majority whenever he wishes it.

Under these circumstances, the governor's momentary reappointment of Dr. Payson Smith as commissioner of education, and its immediate rejection by the Council, must be considered in the nature of a maneuver or device—"a relic of the days of royalty" and an unworthy relic at that. How clearly this is true, and how wide is the resentment felt against such tactics, the Boston Post shows in an able editorial article published today. "If James G. Reardon was the man for the post of Commissioner of Education and, for all the Post knows, he may be most admirably equipped for the position, why was it necessary to go through all this hypocritic hocus pocus to land him in office? . . . The whole business reeks with political chicanery of a sort unusual in Massachusetts. Our citizens are getting a liberal education into the wiles of politics these days."

It seems a double pity that "education" of this sort should come in respect to the high commissionership of the State Department of Education itself. Here is a post which, above all, should stand free from politics. The children of Massachusetts should not be taught that political wiles entangle the appointment even of the State commissioner sworn to protect the good interest of the schools against just such influences. If a lower standard is now to be recognized, no one need wonder if many more scandals occur, such as the "school racket," now being investigated by the district attorney for Suffolk county.

There are strong grounds for commendation of Governor Curley's reappointment of Henry F. Long as commissioner of corporations and taxation and of Paul G. Kirk as commissioner of public safety. We gladly commend these acts of the governor, but it is impossible to dilate upon them at this time when, to terminate the service of a great and worthy State commissioner of education, the Executive Council has operated in so cold-blooded a manner.

Fortunately, the people of Massachusetts will recognize this trick as the brutal political maneuver which it is. How can anybody possibly be fooled by so transparent an attempt to play both

ends and middle? It represents the lowest-water mark of a low administration.

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## TRANSCRIPT

Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## Urges Hearing on Worcester Burning Case

### Curley Acts on Getting Strong Protest Against Letting Gardner Out of Prison

Responding to the protest of Worcester clergymen and other citizens against his proposed Christmas pardon of Harry A. Gardner of Worcester, Governor James M. Curley announced today that he has asked the pardon committee of the Executive Council to grant a hearing at 10 A. M., Monday, to all persons desiring to make objection to the release of Gardner who is serving a State prison sentence of from ten to twelve years for maliciously burning a building.

"The protest, made by certain church dignitaries of Worcester against the recommendation for commutation of sentence in the case of Gardner from ten to twelve years to four to twelve years of which he has served four years, and in event of parole would have an opportunity to spend Christmas Day for the first time in four years with his family and relatives, has been of such character that I have decided to refer the protest to the committee on pardons of the Governor's Council," the governor said.

"My approval of the commutation in this case was based on the fact that it was one of the few cases where every official connected with the Penal Department and with Corrections was unanimous in approval of the commutation, a recommendation having been approved by Arthur T. Lyman, commissioner of correction; Richard Olney, chairman; Matthew W. Bullock and P. Emmett Gavin of the parole board; and also by Warden Francis J. Lannigan and Superintendent Maurice Winslow of the State prison colony.

"The recommendation in this case was based, so far as I have been able to ascertain, on the fact that the man had served four years, that it was his first offense, and that unquestionably he was not in his right mind at the time the offense was committed, being under the influence of liquor. If a protest is justified in this case by those men who teach the doctrine of forgiveness and they are influenced in their views even in the shadow of Christmas and all it conveys, then there is no way to justify granting pardons or commutations to any offender.

"I am quite sure that the committee on pardons of the Governor's Council will accept my recommendation and grant a hearing to those who have voiced a pro-

test. Any individual desiring to appear in objection to approval by the pardon committee to the granting of same is at liberty to be present at the session of that body in the council chamber on Monday at 10 A. M.

Councillor Frank A. Brooks of Watertown, former chairman of the State Board of Parole, declared today that he will oppose the recommendation for Gardner's release.

"I have examined carefully the folder in the Gardner case and can find absolutely no reason whatever why I should vote for the recommended commutation of sentence," the councillor said.



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TRAVELER

Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

# TOWNSENDITES IN WAR ON CURLEY

## TOWNSENDITES ARE OUT AFTER CURLEY SCALP

State Leader for Plan  
Claims 300,000  
Votes

By SARA WHITE

(Copyright, 1935, by Boston Herald-Traveler Corp.)

Three hundred thousand Massachusetts Townsendites are "going after James M. Curley's hide," promised Charles M. Hawks, state manager of the Townsend clubs today.

"We have 30,000 registered Townsend Club members in Massachusetts. We have 10 times that many signers of Townsend Plan petitions. That makes 300,000 voters. Every one of those 300,000 will be a campaign manager in his district.

### WON'T GET BY PRIMARIES

"Curley won't get by the primaries!" boomed the dynamic Californian, father of Flier Capt. Frank Hawks and long-time friend of Dr. Townsend.

"Every time Curley goes on the air and talks for Roosevelt's pauper pension plan he licks himself. This office?"—he looked around the pleasant state headquarters on Boylston street and bit into his cigar. "We won't have to do a thing. Our members will take care of that!"

"We have so far educated the thinking people of the state of Massachusetts," went on the ro-tund, bald former real estate broker, "that I believe Mr. Roosevelt's

## TOWNSEND PLAN LEADER



CHARLES M. HAWKS

"Curley won't get by the primaries."

New Deal will be repudiated in a tremendous degree in Massachusetts.

"The present Governor of Massachusetts, in advocating Roose-

velt's so-called social security plan is defeating himself. Believe it when I tell you he can't substantiate the statements he is making

*Continued*



about the tremendous good it is going to do, and that he is also badly mistaken when he intimates that the spending power of the Townsend plan is not infinitely better than the plan he advocates."

#### 600 P.C. GROWTH

The Townsendites, grown 600 per cent. since the "schism" in the spring, are "militant, alive, determined to get what we want," according to their spokesman.

"A year ago we had 45 clubs. Now we have 154 clubs in Massachusetts. We have about 25 clubs in Boston, averaging 500 members each. Our growth last week was 2535 members in five days.

"The wealthy town of Weston enrolled 100 members at the first meeting, in a single night. Brookline has two clubs, one of them a Young Men's club with a membership goal of 1000 by Jan. 1.

"Edith Nourse Rogers said she 'hadn't studied' our movement, although we've had the Townsend Weekly and Townsend literature on her desk for weeks. Our answer? We're now organizing 40 clubs in Lowell, of more than 100 members each. Townsend Plan petitioners there are 10 times the club members.

#### SWEEPING WARNING

"We hope Congresswoman Rogers will see the light. It will pay her to study those petitions if she wants to keep her job!"

The state's congressmen and senators are now being canvassed by the national organization, Hawks reported.

"Now the only ones we know are with us are Joseph E. Casey and William P. Connery, Jr. The two senators have made no comments so far either for or against. We are telling all of them 'Investigate the Townsend plan. If you do not, we are going to swamp you with Townsend club voters who will send you back home, and a politician without a job is a pretty sorry animal!'"—he beamed, took another puff, and sank back in his pivot chair.

"We will check every congressman and follow his movements. We will have well-organized area boards who will attend every political rally, every political meeting

"The Townsend movement will support a candidate for office who indorses publicly and over his own signature for the press the Townsend plan. But the Townsend movement will not support any candidate who for political purposes only asks for the support of Dr. Townsend's followers

"We expect either the Republican or the Democrat for each office to be with us. If neither of them are, we are prepared to throw in our own candidates. Yes, we have them up our sleeves and we can produce them if necessary

"The Townsend Plan," he went on, "is sweeping like wild fire. We can't even take care of the inquiries."

They now have 15 paid organizers in the state, paid on a commission basis for organization of clubs. Members contribute a 25-cent fee when they join and a dime a month thereafter. All dues are forwarded through the state office to regional head-

quarters in New York and are then redistributed into the district by the national officers. All state affairs have been managed by Hawks as state czar, since he was sent here from Hollywood Sept. 3.

"We know everybody isn't friendly to us," expanded Hawks. "Some of the members don't like the criticism. But I feel like P. T. Barnum. Get 'em talking about you even if they cuss you!"

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#### TRAVELER Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

Worcester 495,562 206,895

## JUDGES RUMOR NEW TO CURLEY

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#### TRAVELER Boston, Mass.

DEC 19 1935

## REARDON TAKES OATH TODAY

### Storm Over Appointment to Succeed Dr. Smith Increases

While the indignation of educators rose today on all sides because of the dropping of Dr. Payson Smith as commissioner of education, James G. Reardon, 36, superintendent of schools in Adams, came to Boston to take the oath of office as successor of Dr. Smith.

Reardon was nominated and confirmed yesterday by the executive council in a seesaw manoeuvre. After an 80-minute conference with Democratic members of the council, Dr. Smith's name was submitted for reappointment. It was promptly rejected by the Democratic majority of the council. As quickly, Reardon's nomination, which received a few minutes later, was confirmed.

The rejection of Dr. Smith immediately drew the fire of public educators and leaders of teachers and Parent-Teachers Associations. Thousands of telegrams and resolutions from groups in all parts of the state have been sent to the Governor asking for the retention of Dr. Smith.

Mrs. Paul H. Kelsey, president of the Massachusetts Parent-Teachers Association, called the act, "Terrible, terrible." She termed the Governor's failure to reappoint Dr. Smith the "silliest thing I ever heard of," and concluded, "I hope that this final act will be the finish of Mr. Curley."

Willard B. Atwell of Wakefield, president of the Massachusetts School Superintendents' Association, said it was a serious mistake not to retain Dr. Smith. Joseph Lee, president of the Massachusetts Civic League, termed it "deplorable." Mrs. Grace I. Woodbury of Melrose, president of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation, said that, as far as she knew, Reardon's name had never been presented to the teachers of Massachusetts.

Reardon, a graduate of Boston College, has done graduate work at Boston University and Harvard University. He tutored in Greek at Boston College and then became a teacher in East Bridgewater.

Subsequently he became principal of the East Bridgewater High school and when the office of superintendent became vacant he was put in that place. Last June he became superintendent of schools in Adams.

While teaching in East Bridgewater Reardon married Anita Thorndike, a daughter of the late Judge Hubert C. Thorndike. They have four children, Cynthia, 7; James G., Jr., 5; Susan Thorndike, 3, and Rosemary, 1.



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DEC 19 1935

## REARDON GIVEN OATH BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Gov. Curley administering the oath of office today at the State House to James G. Reardon while the wife of the new state commissioner of education (in centre) looks on with approval.

### Dr. Conrad Calls Ousting of Smith 'Most Contemptible Act in Entire Curley Administration'

As Dr. Payson Smith, ousted commissioner of education, was expressing his thanks to those who stood by him today, the Rev. A. Z. Conrad, pastor of Park Street Church, criticized the replacement of Smith as "the most contemptible act in the entire Curley administration."

#### CRITICIZE HASTE

Officials of the League of Women Voters vigorously criticized the haste with which Smith was ousted and his successor confirmed.

Dr. Conrad said:

"The appointment of James G. Reardon as commissioner of education is the most contemptible act in the entire Curley adminis-

tration. The removal of Dr. Payson Smith is an exemplification, part and parcel, of Curley politics. I have received a number of requests from citizens of Massachusetts to start a petition for the removal of Mr. Reardon. However, it is too late to act now. It should have been done weeks ago in anticipation of Curley methods.

Dr. Smith's statement follows:

"I want to express my deep appreciation to the thousands of school officials, teachers and citizens who have given to me and to the department of education their support through the years in which I have been in their service and in that of the children of the commonwealth, and for the continued confidence that has been shown me in recent months. I want also to speak of the

invaluable service that the press of the state has rendered in acquainting the public with the work and activities of the department and in its sincere and wholesome criticism of its policies.

"I have taken great pride and satisfaction in the office of commissioner of education, and I have made every effort to discharge its duties in a manner consistent with its high traditions. In that effort I have had at all times the invaluable support of the members of the state board of education, of my associates on my staff, and in the institutions associated with the department of education."

Striving to learn why the executive council deemed it necessary to suspend the rules and confirm Reardon, yesterday, two officers of the Massachusetts League of Women Voters called on Lt.-Gov. Hurley at the State House today, but were unable to meet him. The women, Mrs. Helen G. Rotch, legislative chairman, and Mrs. Edward K. Nash, chairman of the state legislative committee on civil service, both of the league, made tentative arrangements to see the Lieutenant-Governor tomorrow. The wish to ask him but one question:

"Why was it deemed necessary to confirm Mr. Reardon under a suspension of the rules?"

At the same time, today, Mrs. Richard H. Field, president of the league, issued a statement accusing the council of denying the public a chance to discuss the appointment and qualifications of Reardon.

#### MRS. FIELD'S STATEMENT

"The Massachusetts League of Women Voters feels strongly that, in the case of so important a state matter as the appointment of a new commissioner of education the public should most certainly have been given the opportunity to discuss the qualifications of the appointee and to express its opinion. This opportunity is traditionally afforded the public by the customary period—usually a week and sometimes more—between the governor's appointment and its consideration by the council. By means of suspending the rules and acting instantaneously on Mr. Reardon's appointment the council permitted the public no chance whatever of discussing the appointment and Mr. Reardon's qualifications. The league is eager to learn from Lt. Gov. Hurley the reason which led to a suspension of the rules in this important matter.

"Further than this the league wishes to draw attention to the fact that Dr. Payson Smith, whose reappointment as education commissioner the council refused to confirm, has furnished Massachusetts with such extraordinary ability, intelligence and devotion that he has become not only a major figure in the states, but a major figure throughout America as well. His regime as commissioner has made Massachusetts one of the most envied states educationally in the Union. It is with the greatest regret that the league sees Dr. Smith, after 20 years of such magnificent service, rejected in such a summary manner"

*Continued*



By DONALD R. WAUGH

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#### STANDS BY TEACHERS' OATH

The new commissioner then issued a brief prepared statement promising to uphold the high educational standards of the state and calling for observance of the teachers' oath law.

The Governor's office was crowded to overflowing today as Reardon, with his wife at his side, appeared to take the several oaths of office before the Governor.

Gov. Curley, while not mentioning the protests that had been received against his action in appointing Reardon yesterday to replace Dr. Payson Smith, recognized these protests as he swore in the new commissioner.

After the oaths had been taken the Governor said:

"I want to say I wish you every success in the office to which you have been appointed. I have appreciation that the education and training of your predecessor was no greater than yours. If we all were to drop dead tomorrow there would be other men and women spring up to take our places who would be better qualified than we ever could be. This applies to the education department as well as to any other place.

"You have a great responsibility and I am confident you will discharge it.

"That is the truest thing ever said. We kid ourselves that we are indispensable."

A few minutes later as he was posing with the new commissioner and his wife for photographs, the Governor said: "I just want to repeat that no one is absolutely indispensable."

#### TAKES OVER NEW DUTIES

Reardon thanked the Governor briefly and then went to the department of education on the second floor of the State House to take over his new duties.

As he left the Governor's office he handed his prepared statement to newspaper men and asked to be excused from saying anything further at the time.

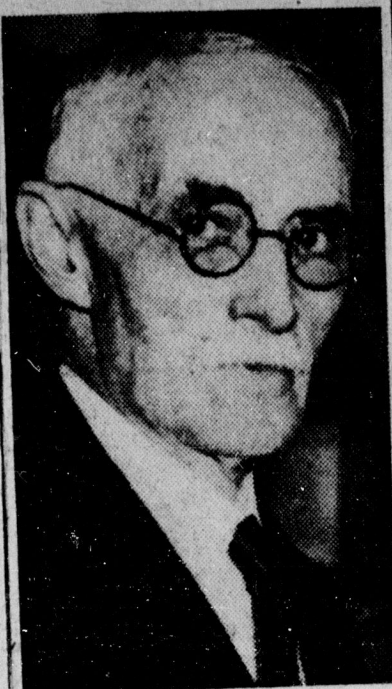
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#### MUST ABIDE BY OATH

"At the present, the law of the state is that the teachers should take this oath. The General Court of Massachusetts has decided that

## Watched His Son Take Oath of Office



William H. Reardon of Medway, father of the new state commissioner of education, who witnessed his son take office today

at present such an oath is necessary. As long as the law made by the General Court exists, there is no question about the duty of any educator who is a law-abiding

citizen. Those citizens who feel that the oath is not necessary can have recourse to the constitutional method of changing the law. Concerning the necessity of this law at present, that depends on the facts which seemed to justify the General Court in passing this law and the ability as well as the willingness of educational authorities to handle the situation without the aid of special legislation. Concerning the observance of the law itself, I can see no objection to any educator taking an oath which obligates him only to the performance of what is a clear duty—an oath similar in most respects to that taken by lawyers and by many public officials in the state."

(Dr. Smith had opposed the legislation for the teachers' oath.)

#### FAIL TO SEE HURLEY

Dr. Smith was not present when Reardon was sworn in.

*concluded*

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Given State

Job by Curley



HENRY T. CALNAN

CALNAN GIVEN

CURLEY REWARD

Weymouth Man Named  
State Real Estate  
Appraiser

Henry T. Calnan of Johnson road, Weymouth, has been appointed by Gov. Curley as real estate appraiser for the state in the department of public works.

Calnan was one of Gov. Curley's leading supporters along the South Shore during the gubernatorial campaign. Gov. Curley often visited Calnan at his Weymouth home.

Calnan is well known among shipbuilders, real estate dealers and has always been politically active. Calnan's job calls for a maximum salary of \$3160.



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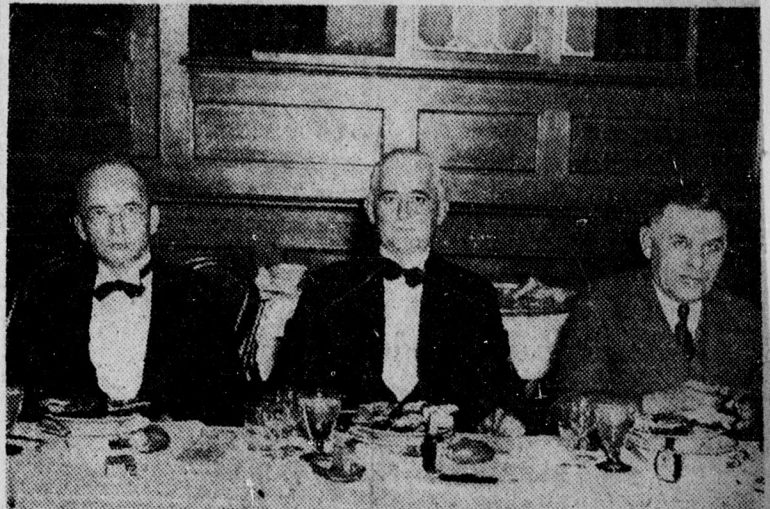
The Governor referred to the retirement of judges in his inaugural message a year ago and discussed matters pertaining to the retirement of judges with Judge Lummis last spring.

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## Birthday Banquet Given Harry Kane by Friends



Prominent at banquet to Harry Kane were, left to right: Arthur Stern, chairman; Frank Houlihan, president of Mollers, Inc., and Harry Kane, president of Kane Furniture Company.

## Furniture Store Head Lauded by Business Associates

The Swiss room at the Copley-Plaza was the scene last night of a testimonial birthday banquet arranged by more than 100 friends and business associates in honor of Harry Kane, one of New England's most aggressive and popular business leaders, and president of the Kane Furniture Company, operating 15 great stores in the New England states.

Many well known business executives were present, including David Lillienthal (Fox Furriers); Arthur Stone, vice-president First National Bank; Ben Elfman, Ben Elfman & Co.; J. H. Burke, Burke & Co.; Frank Houlihan, president of Mollers, Inc.; Arthur Stern, Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, and many others.

Among the Kane executives present were Max Weiss, general manager; Louis Kane, assistant treasurer; M. W. Bliss, treasurer Rhode Island supply division, Kane company; Lloyd Bliss, treasurer Rhode Island supply division of the Kane com-

pany; M. Swanson, merchandise manager; B. Roberts, manager Boston store; J. Gold, manager Waltham store; J. Jurmaine, manager Cambridge store; H. A. Newton, advertising director; Stedman Beckwith, advertising manager, and many others.

One of the highlights of the occasion was the presence of Theodore Glynn, former fire commissioner of the city of Boston, personal representative of Gov. James M. Curley, who extended the official greetings of the commonwealth of Massachusetts to Mr. Kane and glowingly commended him on behalf of the Governor on his amazing success in carrying his organization from a single store a few short years ago to its present position as one of America's largest furniture institutions on providing ever increasing employment and factory activity in New England and on furnishing such a splendid example of courage, leadership and Americanism during his entire business career.

Following Mr. Glynn, Frank Houlihan, toastmaster, introduced M. W. Bliss, Arthur Stone, Arthur Stern, Ralph Kahn, Jack Cremmens, and other friends of Mr. Kane and executives of the company who paid glowing tribute to Mr. Kane's leadership and success.

Following the speeches Mr. Houlihan presented to Mr. Kane a great golden key symbolic of the key to the new office furnished by friends and well wishers as their birthday present to Mr. Kane, whereupon Mr. Kane responded in sincere and heartfelt appreciation for the tribute paid him.



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DEC 19 1935

# Governor Warns on WPA Riots

## Pay WPA Before Holiday or Face Riot, Says Curley

Administrator Rotch said this afternoon that all WPA workers whose pay period ends on Friday will get all money due them before Christmas.

Gov. Curley today made public a letter to Harry L. Hopkins, federal relief administrator, warning him that there will be riots and bloodshed in Massachusetts unless WPA workers are paid up before Christmas.

In a passage generally interpreted as his first open blast on Arthur G. Rotch, WPA administrator for Massachusetts, the Governor cited recent disturbances of WPA workers in Lowell and elsewhere and said the only explanation is the "abject failure" of the man in charge. He did not name Rotch specifically.

Hopkins in Washington early this week announced that all WPA workers throughout the country would be paid up in full before Christmas. This was pointed out by WPA officials in Boston when they heard of the Curley attack. They said the Governor evidently had not read the Hopkins statement.

The Governor announced that before sending his letter he had talked by telephone to Postmaster-General Farley at Washington and Farley promised to take up the situation in this state with Hopkins.

The text of the letter from the Governor to Hopkins follows:

"There is a possibility of riots and bloodshed unless persons employed under the works progress administration receive their wages prior to Christmas.

"I beg to direct your attention more particularly to the case of women and men—citizens of Lowell—to the number of 3000, who have received no pay since Nov. 21 and are naturally resentful and whose resentment may find expression in some stronger form than verbal protest.

"What is true in the case of Lowell is true in the case of Wakefield, where the employes have not been paid for five weeks, and in many other cities of the state the same condition prevails.

"The attempt to excuse a failure to so conduct the activities of this department as to meeting obligations of this character upon the grounds of the enormity of the task is stupid for the reason that a sufficient number of competent clerical help is always available. The fault does not lie altogether in the system, rather does it lie directly with the official in charge whose administration of the office may be summed up in the single phrase, "abject failure."

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DEC 19 1935

## The Governor and the Children

The James M. Curley of old would have bluntly told the public that he was not going to reappoint his commissioner of education, Payson Smith.

But for some reason, Governor Curley avoided candor. Instead he said he would send Smith's name to the council. Before he sent it, however, the Governor had a little talk with the Democratic members of the council. When the Governor submitted Smith's name for reappointment, the council rejected the nomination.

The Governor then named a man whose executive training had reached its peak as superintendent of schools at Adams, Mass.

And that is Governor Curley's Christmas gift to the school children of Massachusetts.



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DEC 19 1935

# New Education Head Praises Teacher Oath

## OATH IS GIVEN TO REARDON BY GOVERNOR

### Curley Asserts Three Times, Woman Is Indispensable

By DONALD R. WAUGH

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DEC 19 1935

# KIRK AND LONG STAY IN OFFICE

## Council Defers Action on Murphy to Be Agriculture Head

Under suspension of rules the executive council yesterday confirmed Gov. Curley's nomination of Lt.-Col. Paul G. Kirk of Newton to a new term as state commissioner of public safety and of Henry F. Long of Topsfield to continue in office as state commissioner of corporations and taxation.

The council again voted to defer action on the Governor's pending nomination of Howard H. Murphy of Osterville to succeed Edgar L. Gillett of Canton as state commissioner of agriculture.

No action was taken by the Governor on the expired tenures of Raymond J. Kenney of Belmont, state director of fisheries and game; Arthur T. Lyman of Westwood, state commissioner of correction; Brig.-Gen. Richard K. Hale, associate commissioner of public works, and Maj. George J. Cronin of Boston, state purchasing agent.

### OTHER NOMINATIONS

Other nominations submitted to the council were:

Dr. Andrew D. Guthrie of Medford to succeed Dr. Fritz W. Gay of Malden as associate medical examiner of the second Middlesex district.

Daniel E. Kiley of Adams to succeed Edwin K. McPeck of Adams as clerk of the fourth district court of Berkshire.

Daniel Lucey of Malden to succeed Nicholas A. Loumos of Boston as public administrator.

Albert A. Ward of Newton, reappointed clerk of the southern Norfolk district court.

Frank H. Peterson of Medford, reappointed pilot commissioner of district 1.

Orville S. Pinkham of Watertown, reappointed pilot commissioner of district 1.

John Sullivan of Fall River, to succeed D. Gardiner O'Keefe of Taunton as deputy pilot commissioner of district 4.

James S. McQuade of New Bedford, to succeed Manuel P. Marshall of New Bedford as deputy pilot commissioner of district 3.

Arthur J. O'Neil of Quincy, stenographer in the executive department.

Lt.-Col. Kirk took the oath of office before Gov. Curley shortly after his nomination had been confirmed. He has served 13 months, having been appointed to succeed Maj.-Gen. Daniel Needham of Newton, who voluntarily retired. Col. Kirk has a five-year term at an annual salary of \$6000. Commissioner Long's term is three years and his salary is \$7500.

The council approved Commissioner Long's appointments of Festus M. Flaherty of Boston, Frederick T. Openshaw of Fall River and John F. Kelley of Medford to be deputy income tax assessors. The three Republican councillors voted against approval.

Councillors Schuster and Brooks also voted against authorizing the executive appointment of Francis R. Mullin of Winchester as agent for Massachusetts in pressing a claim against the federal government for \$233,885 for compensation for expenditures during the civil war in protecting harbors and coast fortifications.

The council also approved a transfer of \$8282 from the extraordinary fund to cover a shortage in the trustee fund at state prison which consists of bank deposits of prison inmates. The shortage resulted from the closing of the Charlestown Trust Company where the funds of the inmates had been invested.

The council approved the public works contract awarded to Merritt, Chapman and Scott Corp. of New London for the reconstruction of platforms at Commonwealth pier on a bid of \$717,940.



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DEC 19 1935

## Governor Asks Hearing On Pardon of Gardner

Pointing out that his recommendation for commutation had the backing of "every official connected with the penal department and with the department of corrections," Gov. Curley today, nevertheless, requested the pardon committee of the Governor's council to hold a hearing Monday to listen to protest against the proposed clemency to Henry A. Gardner of Worcester.

### SET CHURCH FIRES

The Governor submitted the recommendation for commutation and clemency to the council and it was referred with other cases to the pardon committee.

Gardner is now serving a sentence of 10 to 12 years for setting the fires which destroyed All Saints' Episcopal church and damaged Pleasant Street Baptist church in Worcester in January, 1932.

Members of the Baptist church organization and others connected with Worcester churches adopted last night sharp resolutions condemning the proposed pardon and saying that Gardner has not had sufficient time for adequate punishment.

Coincident with the Governor's statement today, Councillor Frank A. Brooks of Watertown, Republican, said:

"I have examined carefully the folder in the Gardner case and can

find absolutely no reason whatever why I should vote for the recommended commutation of sentence." Brooks is a former chairman of the state parole board.

The council committee on pardons had already arranged to meet Monday morning to consider the pardon recommendations and report to the council at a special meeting of the council Monday noon.

The Governor said today he would not attend the hearing which he has asked the pardon committee to hold on the matter.

The Governor issued the following statement on the case:

"The protest made by certain church dignitaries of Worcester against the recommendation for commutation of sentence in the case of Henry A. Gardner from 10 to 12 years, of which sentence he has served four years, and, in the event of parole, would have an opportunity to spend Christmas day for the first time in four years with his family and relatives, has been of such character that I have decided to refer the protest to the committee on pardons of the Governor's council, which meets two days prior to Christmas, on Monday, Dec. 23, at 10 A. M. at the council chamber, State House, Boston.

"Approval of the commutation in this case was based upon the fact

that it was one of the few cases where every official connected with the penal department and with corrections were unanimous in their approval of the commutation of sentence, a recommendation having been approved by Commissioner of Correction Lyman, chairman of the parole board Richard Olney, Mathew W. Bullock and P. Emmet Gavin of the parole board, also by Warden Francis J. W. Lannigan and Superintendent Maurice Winslow of the state prison colony.

### BASIS OF RECOMMENDATION

"The recommendation in this case was based, so far as I have been able to ascertain, on the fact that the man had served four years, that it was his first offence and that unquestionably he was not in his right mind at the time when the offence was committed, being under the influence of liquor. If a protest is justified in this case by those men who teach the doctrine of forgiveness, and they are influenced in their views even in the shadow of Christmas and all that it conveys, then there is no way to justify granting pardons or commutations to any offender.

"I am quite sure that the committee on pardons of the Governor's council will accept my recommendation and grant a hearing to those who have voiced a protest and any individual desiring to appear in objection to approval by the pardon committee of the Governor's council to the granting of same is at liberty to be present at the session of that body to be held in the council chamber Monday at 10 A. M."



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## CURLEY SEEKS / COMMUTATIONS

### Urges Clemency for Four Lifers and Worcester Pyromaniac

Gov. Curley yesterday recommended the extension of executive clemency to four killers and one confessed pyromaniac now serving long term sentences at state prison. The executive council will meet in special session Monday to consider granting them commutations which will make them eligible for immediate parole.

The Governor also announced that he has authorized the department of correction to release 200 state farm inmates and 20 women's reformatory inmates before Christmas. Most of them were committed for drunkenness.

The state board of parole, at his direction, also will release 15 first offenders from the reformatory at Concord with the release of 14 others to be ordered before Jan. 31.

#### REIGN OF TERROR

The state prison convicts for whom he has recommended sentence commutations are Samuel Powers of Westfield and Wojciech Birosz of Salem, lifers; and William Hooper of Lynn, Henry A. Gardner of Worcester and Thomas J. Panetta of Cambridge.

The arrest of Gardner early in 1932 brought an end to a reign of terror that had existed in Worcester following a long series of serious fires, one of which resulted in the destruction of the All Saints Episcopal Church at a loss of \$250,000. He has served less than three years of a 10 to 12-year sentence imposed after he was found guilty on six counts of arson. Police attributed the setting of 35 fires to him.

He was a self-confessed "hip" man in a speakeasy and pyromaniac. Pressed to account for his actions, he said, "I can't help it. It's just an overpowering impulse which comes over me." Police said he had been drinking when he was arrested and

he explained, "I always take a few" before setting out on an incendiary mission. His arrest resulted in leaving public buildings unguarded in the night time after a long period of vigilance.

Among the fires he confessed to starting were the All Saints Episcopal Church and the Pleasant Street Baptist Church in the same neighborhood.

#### KILLED HIS WIFE

Powers, a Negro, has served nearly 21 years of a life sentence imposed for the murder of his wife by choking.

Birosz, alias Biros, alias Birusz, has served 16 years of a life sentence for the murder of 17-year-old Mary Blanche Lavoie at Salem in 1918. He shot her to death as she was leaving a Salem dance hall. He had been employed with the young woman at the Naumkeag mills.

His plea for commutation of sentence was rejected by former Gov. Ely in 1934 after he had been given a hearing before the state parole board. He was defended in superior court by William H. McSweeney, now the senator from Salem.

Panetta has served nearly six years of a 12 to 20 year term for the murder of Dominic Simonetti.

Hooper beat William J. Lewey to death at Nahant nearly three years ago and gave himself up to police. The victim, a married man, was accused of paying attention to Hooper's 17-year-old sister, who was at the time confined to a Swampscott maternity home.